

NEED UNITED GLOBAL FRONT AGAINST TERROR, MODI TELLS U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

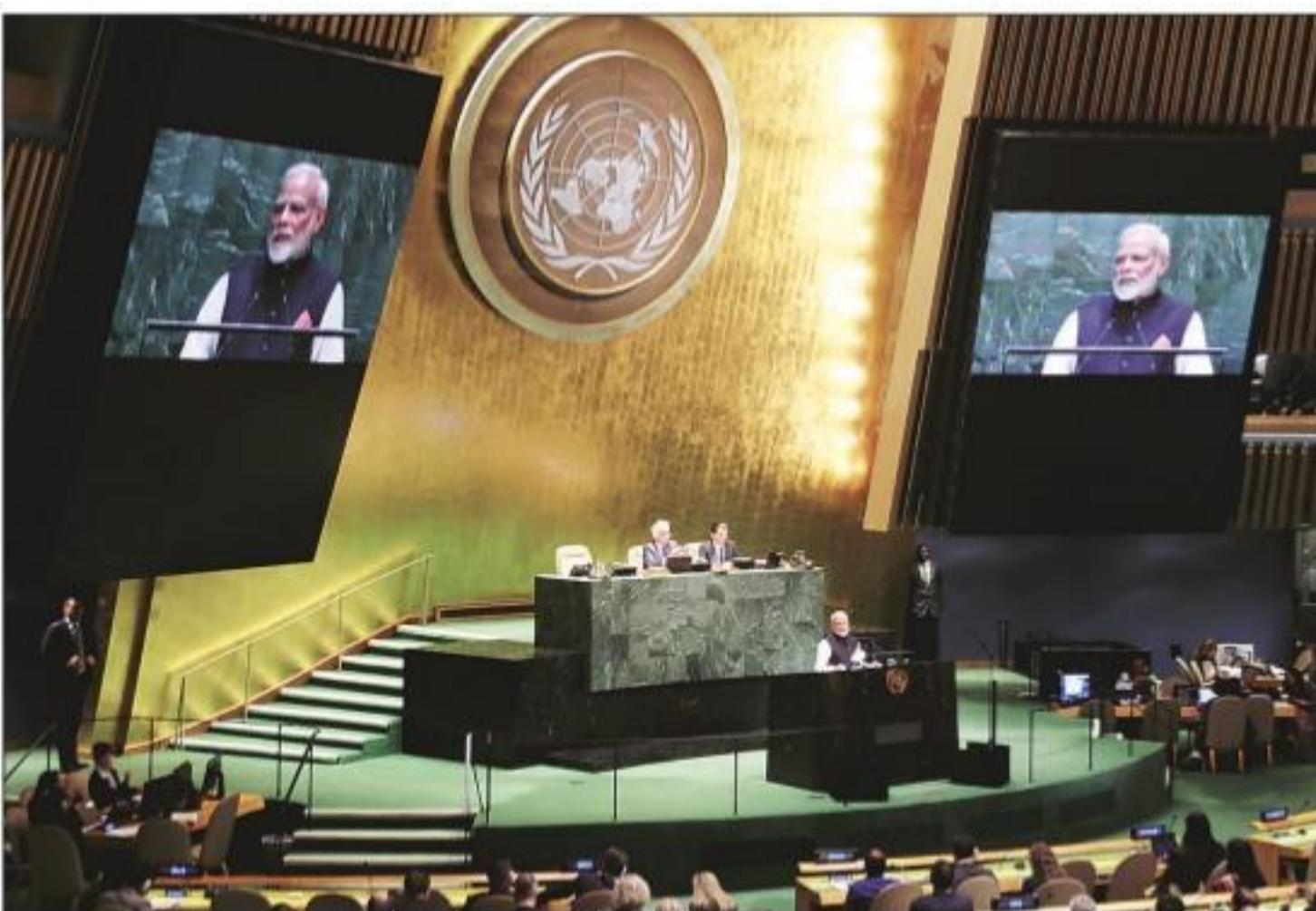
# PM address is his India story

'India has given world Buddh, not Yuddh... countries can't confine themselves within boundaries'

EXPLAINED  
E.

## Flags his govt's flagship plans

MUCH OF the Prime Minister's address at the UNGA was devoted to the strides India is making at home, be it the campaign against single-use plastic or Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and globally, as a lead player in solar and renewable energy. Pushing for multilateralism, Modi also highlighted India's contribution in peacekeeping and combating climate change.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Friday. PTI

MORE REPORTS, PAGE 6

## EXPRESS IN U.S.

SHUBHAJIT ROY

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 27

MAKING THE social programmes of his government and its governance the centrepiece of his address to the United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday said India's achievements on sanitation, health insurance, bank accounts, digital identification are an "inspiration to the entire world", especially "those countries striving for development, each in their own way".

While much of his address was devoted to India's ambitious targets — from conservation of water and its availability in 150 million homes to 20 million houses for the poor, elimination of single-use plastic to eradication of tuberculosis five years ahead of the 2030 global target — the Prime Minister, without naming Pakistan, described terrorism as one of the biggest challenges for not just India but the

entire world, and said the international community must stand united against terror.

Speaking in Hindi, Modi said: "Hum ush desh ke waasi hain jise duniya ko yuddh nahin, Buddh diya hai, shanti ka sandesh diya hai (We belong to a country which has given the world not war but

Buddha, and the message of peace)." He said if there's any country that has made the biggest sacrifice in UN peacekeeping missions, it is India.

Pointing to lack of unanimity on the issue of terrorism, he said: "We believe that this is one of the biggest challenges, not for any

single country, but for the entire world and humanity. The lack of unanimity amongst us on the issue of terrorism dents those very principles that are the basis for the creation of the UN."

Invoking Tamil philosopher Kaniyan Pungundranar and Swami Vivekananda to seek col-

lective action against global challenges, he said harmony and peace is the message of the world's largest democracy to the rest of the world. "About 3,000 years ago, a great poet of India, whose name was Kaniyan Pungundranar, wrote in Tamil,

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## Sena: Pawar a leader of standing, ED has made bank case political

PRADEEP KAUSHAL

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

COMING OUT in defence of rival NCP chief Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena's parliamentary party leader Sanjay Raut, a BJP ally, Friday questioned the alleged money-laundering case against "a senior leader with a certain standing", and said it has only given fresh lease of life to the NCP on the eve of the assembly elections in Maharashtra.

Raut said the Enforcement Directorate (ED) case against Pawar is generating sympathy for him and galvanising the cadre of a party on the decline. The case, he said, had acquired political colour, and those familiar with Pawar's capabilities and the politics of Maharashtra can



Sharad Pawar with NCP workers outside his Mumbai residence Friday. Prashant Nadkar

figure how the matter is going to play out.

"I would say, for no reason, the investigating agency has made the case political," Raut said.

The ED booked Pawar, his

nephew Ajit Pawar, and several other state leaders in connection with an alleged scam in the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank (MSCB).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## After 2 Dalit kids killed, Govt says no ODF coercion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

DAYS AFTER two Dalit children were allegedly beaten to death for defecating in the open in Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh, the Jal Shakti Ministry Friday cited the incident to issue an advisory to all states that "no coercion should be used to ensure ODF in any area" in the country.

On Wednesday, the MP police arrested two brothers for killing two Dalit children, a 10-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl, in Bhavkhedi village.

The boy's father Manoj Valmiki, told police that the brothers objected to the two children defecating in the open near their house and beat them to death with sticks. Incidentally, the village had been declared open defecation free on April 4, 2018.

In the advisory to all Chief Secretaries, the Jal Shakti Ministry said: "As you are aware, positive behaviour change for adoption of safe sanitation practices as well as ensuring that no

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## To push digital, official proposes mandatory QR code for merchants

KARISHMA MEHROTRA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

ASENIOR official of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has proposed that it should be made mandatory for merchants to have a QR code to more aggressively push digital payments nationwide.

"We need interoperable QRs in every place. I seriously feel that if you are big turnover person, you have to mandatorily

provide a digital payment option. You can't say I have nothing, I deal only with cash," Joint Secretary Gopalakrishnan S said at the Data Security Council of India summit in Delhi.

Gopalakrishnan oversees the data protection Bill drafting process, the ministry's interactions with foreign companies, and digital payments.

There are 7 crore merchants and only 40 lakh POS (Point of sale machines that accept digital payments) machines in the

country, he said. And that because the government will not be able to fund POS machines to every merchant, a mandatory QR code is the best next step after the spread of bank accounts through Jan Dhan Yojana.

A user can scan a merchant's QR code and get automatically directed to pay the merchant on their phone through a payment app.

"Somewhere down the line, just like what we did with Jan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## INX Media net widens: Ex-Niti CEO among 4 to be prosecuted

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE CBI has been granted sanction by the government to prosecute four former officials of the Finance Ministry, including Sindhushree Khullar who went on to become CEO of Niti Aayog, in the INX Media case in which former Finance Minister P Chidambaram is already in judicial custody.

The sanction was granted a

month after Khullar was confronted with Chidambaram who was then in CBI custody. A 1975-batch IAS officer from the Union Territory cadre, Khullar was Additional Secretary in the Finance Ministry when developments related to the INX Media allegedly took place, CBI sources claimed. She was Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) between 2004 and 2008. In 2015, she was appointed Niti Aayog CEO.

Others to be prosecuted are

Anup K Pujari, former Secretary of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Prabodh Saxena, former Director in the Finance Ministry; and, Rabindra Prasad, former Under Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs.

In his defence, Chidambaram had said all decisions of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) were taken by the board and the Ministry officials concerned.

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## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

## NEGOTIATING TERMS TO JOIN RCEP

BY V S SESHADRI

PAGE 12

## IITs show the tenure track way: Asst. Prof to be promoted after 5 yrs and an appraisal

This will replace current one-year probation, Central univs may be next

PAGE 1  
ANCHOR

RITIKA CHOPRA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE COUNTRY'S premier engineering institutes have paved the way for the nationwide adoption of the tenure track system.

The 23 IITs on Friday agreed to grant tenure to assistant

professors five years after their recruitment. The proposal was also approved by the Council of the 31 NITs this week.

The decision marks a significant shift from the current practice across most centrally-funded educational institutions where fresh faculty recruits are given permanent appointments as assistant professors after a year. They cannot be terminated after that.

Under the tenure track system, an assistant professor is

## OTHER KEY DECISIONS: COURSE TO FINANCE



- Entrepreneurship as optional undergrad paper
- Joint PhD among IITs
- PPP in construction and maintenance of IIT hostels
- International students, including OCI cardholders, will be able to sit for JEE (Advanced) directly.

hired on a five-year contract. Her performance is first reviewed internally three years from the date of joining and then an external committee after five-and-a-half years. Depending on the evaluation, the assistant professor will either be granted tenure (and associate professorship) or asked to leave.

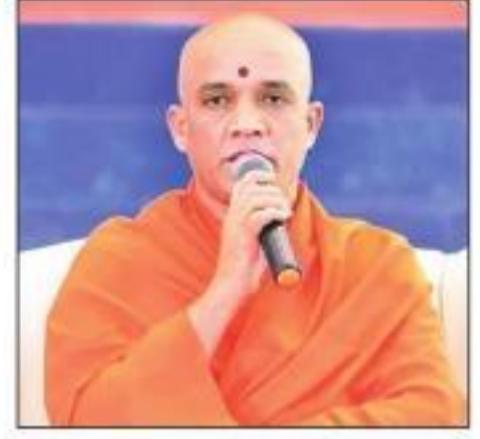
Except for a few institutions (such as the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore and older IIMs including IIM-Bangalore and IIM-Ahmedabad), all centrally-funded universities and a majority of the Institutes of National Importance (INIs)

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## KARNATAKA PROBE FINDS

## Seer's phone was tapped by passing him off as smuggler

Vokkaliga leader courted by Shah, police bid to escape legal 'scrutiny'



Vokkaliga seer Nirmalananda Swami

JOHNSON TA

BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 27

THE INVESTIGATION into the alleged illegal tapping of phones of politicians, their aides, bureaucrats and other officials during the tenure of former Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy has revealed that police officers intercepted some numbers illegally by linking them to unrelated criminal investigations to escape legal scrutiny.

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## IN KERALA'S PALA, LEFT-BACKED CANDIDATE BREACHES UDF FORTRESS AFTER 54 YRS

Ending the five-decade-old supremacy of the Kerala Congress (M) in the Pala Assembly constituency in central Kerala, Mani C Kappan, nominated by the ruling LDF, clinched a close victory over his UDF-backed opponent Jose Tom on Friday

## VIDEO OF THE DAY



## FLIPKART'S LAST-MILE WISHMASTERS

Hub in Siliguri, at least 90 minutes away from the hilltops

## FULL COVERAGE



## LIVE COVERAGE: BY-ELECTION RESULTS

Counting of votes for the Assembly by-elections held on September 23

## EXPRESS AUDIO

## Should car rallies be banned in India after the Barmer tragedy?

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In this episode of Express Sports's podcast, we look at the questions that the Barmer car rally raises and talk about whether the sport is too dangerous to be held in India

## Pak stops postal exchange with India

DIYOGOYAL  
LUJHIANA, SEPTEMBER 27

AMID THE ongoing tension between India and Pakistan following the scrapping of special status to Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370, Islamabad has now stopped exchange of postal mail between the two countries.

People in Punjab have stopped receiving regular mail such as magazines, publications, and even letters which they used to get regularly earlier from Pakistan.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Ajay Kumar Roy, the deputy director general, Department of Posts, confirmed that the written orders to stop mails via post were issued by the customs department of Pakistan on August 23.

"On August 23, the customs department of Pakistan issued written orders to stop exchange of mails between the two countries. The orders said that it is for both export as well as import of mails via post which means they will neither send the post to Indian side nor will they accept any from us. The orders came into effect on August 27," Roy said.

Roy said this was an unilateral decision by Pakistan as before the written orders, mails were being exchanged normally via air. "We exchange mail posts with Pakistan via the air route of Saudi Arabia Airlines. It was going on normally before their customs department issued these orders. It hasn't been done from our side..." he added.

### Among the casualties, 'Punjab Dey Rang'

Following the latest move by Pakistan, the cultural and literary exchange between east and west Punjab has become a casualty.

## Counter-intelligence top cop says one more drone recovered in Punjab

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR  
RAJOKE (TARN TARAN), SEPTEMBER 27

A SENIOR Punjab Police official Friday claimed to have recovered another Pakistani drone, which was used to airdrop arms and ammunition in border areas of Punjab but had "crash-landed" in Muhawa village near the border in Amritsar district.

DSP (counter-intelligence) Balbir Singh, said that the drones from Pakistan breached the Punjab border in at least three villages to drop weapons.

Punjab Police earlier had claimed to have recovered a half-burnt drone from Rajoje village in Tarn Taran. The Rajoje village was Friday visited by BSF Director General V K Johari. BSF claimed that Johari's visit to Rajoje was not in connection with the recovery of drones.

DSP Singh said the damaged drone was recovered Friday based on the information given by Akashdeep, one of the four people the state police arrested on Sunday. They are allegedly part of a terror module of the Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF). Akashdeep accompanied the team to the site.

"Akashdeep had admitted that one drone was burnt in Chhabal town while the other was kept hidden at Muhawa village. This drone could carry five to six kg weight and had a wing span of five feet," the DSP said.

Meanwhile, a Punjab Police

## FROM PAGE ONE

### Pak, China

after Prime Minister Narendra Modi ended his address earlier.

A few Indian diplomats at the Permanent Mission at the UN were, however, present during Khan's speech, who spoke 30 minutes after Modi. India is expected to exercise its right to reply.

"There are 900,000 troops there, they haven't come, as Narendra Modi says, for the prosperity of Kashmir... These 900,000 troops, what are they going to do? When they come out, there will be a bloodbath," Khan told the UNGA in New York.

He added that there could be a repeat of the fighting between the nuclear-armed neighbours seen in February if India blamed Pakistan for any terrorist attack. He said: "If a conventional war starts between the two countries, anything could happen. But supposing a country seven times smaller than its neighbour is faced with the choice: either you surrender, or you fight for your freedom till death?"

"What will we do? I ask myself these questions. We will fight... and when a nuclear-armed country fights to the end, it will have consequences far beyond the borders."

Nadiem added that Dyal Singh Research and Cultural Forum (DSRCF) has been publishing this magazine since 2006 in English and Punjabi. "The Punjabis settled in India, Pakistan, Canada, US, UK and other countries regularly contribute to it. They share their partition stories, research papers etc via this magazine. It is atrocious to snap such a link between people of both countries. Of some 500 copies that are published in Gurmukhi script, around 70 are sent to India. In Pakistan, both Gurmukhi and Shahmukhi Punjabi are dying. Last year we had to discontinue Shahmukhi publication due to less demand," he said.

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Meanwhile, the US has asked

Pakistan why it is only bothered about the human rights of Muslims in Kashmir and is not highlighting the "horrible conditions" that continue to exist for the members of the community throughout China.

Alice Wells, US Acting Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asia, during a special briefing at the UNGA, criticised Khan for not speaking out against China, which has detained an estimated one million Uighurs and other Turkic-speaking Muslims in Xinjiang province.

"I would like to see the same level of concern expressed also about Muslims who are being detained in Western China, literally in concentration-like conditions. And so being concerned about the human rights of Muslims does not extend more broadly than Kashmir, and you've seen the administration very involved here during the UN General Assembly and trying to shine a light on the horrific conditions that continue to exist for Muslims throughout China," Wells said.

### Shiv Sena

Pawar's name, he said, did not find mention in the complaint on which the Bombay High Court had acted. Just because some of his aides were involved, he was being called the kingpin, Raut said, adding that as far as co-operative banks go, members of all parties have association.

There is a drain in Rajoje where most of the drones landed with weapons. All five AK-47 rifles and grenades were dropped at Rajoje. Two pistols were dropped here (Muhawa) and a third in Bhusse.

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## PM address is his India story

which is the most ancient language of the world: "Yaadhum Oore Yaavarum Kelir". This means, we belong to all places, and we belong to everyone. And this is something that was said 3,000 years ago. This sense of belonging beyond borders is unique to India."

He urged the international community to give a new direction to multilateralism. He said as the world is going through a new era, the countries do not have the option to confine themselves within their boundaries. "A divided world is in no one's interest. We must give a thrust to multilateralism and reforming the United Nations."

Kumar was brought in as the Bengaluru Police Commissioner in June 2019 when Janata Dal Secular leader H D Kumaraswamy was Chief Minister despite Kumar being the juniormost officer of the rank of ADGP. He was earlier the Additional Commissioner of police (crime) for Bengaluru.

Incidentally, the Bengaluru police commission is one of five top police units in Karnataka authorised to conduct telephone tapping for seven days with reference to specific criminal cases. For carrying out interceptions for longer periods, police have to obtain clearances from the Home Secretary as per provisions for legal tapping of phones laid out in Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 read with Rule 419 A of Indian Telegraph

Modi peppered his speech with his slogans of New India and Sabka Saath. "How have we been able to achieve this, such rapid changes in New India? India is a great culture, has its own vibrant traditions, and has encompassed universal peace. Our values and culture see divinity in every being and strive for welfare of all. The very core of our approach is public welfare through public participation. And this public welfare is not for India, but for the entire world. And that is the reason, we draw inspiration from our motto, Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas."

He spoke on India's leadership role among developing countries which form the bulk of the 193-member United Nations. "Our endeavours are an expression of neither pity nor pretence. It is inspired by a sense of duty and duty alone. All our endeavours centre on 1.3 billion people. But the dreams that these efforts are trying to fulfill, the same dreams that the entire world has, every country and every society has."

The efforts are ours, but the fruits are for the entire world. And this conviction gets stronger everyday when I think of those countries striving for development, each in

their own way... When I hear about their joys and sorrows, my resolve to develop my country at a faster pace gets even stronger. Because India's experience will be beneficial to these countries as well," he said.

On global warming, the Prime Minister said that even though India's contribution to global warming in terms of per capita emissions is very low, it is at the forefront of the response against it. He highlighted steps taken by his government to fight climate change, including the 450 GW of renewable energy target and the formation of the International Solar Alliance.

The seer has been courted in recent times by leaders like BJP president Amit Shah — ahead of the state assembly polls in 2018 — since the BJP is trying to make inroads into the Vokkaliga community which has traditionally allied with the JDS of Kumaraswamy and his father, former prime minister H D Devegowda.

"The issue of phone tapping is a very interesting one. When it emerged it provided evidence of the depth that had been plumbed by former chief minister of Karnataka (Kumaraswamy). They have done phone-tapping on a large scale and in an illegal manner. It is a cognizable offence. They will have to give answers and must face justice for their actions. Let the whole commu-

nity know about their actions."

"In the normal course, the investigating officer finds numbers that needs to be intercepted and obtains permission — it is a bottom-up process. But in this situation the process seems to have been reversed with numbers being provided by the higher ups — it was turned into a top-down process," a police official familiar with the working of the Bengaluru technical cell said.

The alleged illegal tapping of Nirmalananda Swami's telephone during the tenure of Kumaraswamy is a political hot button issue since Kumaraswamy is considered a prominent leader of the dominant Vokkaliga community which is the second largest in Karnataka.

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The two accused involved in the Shivpuri incident, identified as Hukam Yadav and his brother Rameshwar Yadav, were arrested for murder under the IPC and the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

### dalit children

one is left behind, are key to achieve the goal of the Swachh Bharat Mission."

Signed by Additional Secretary Arun Baraka, the advisory said, "However, some recent media reports have been brought to the notice of this department which are showing that certain forms of inappropriate actions, extreme coercive actions (particularly instance of Shivpuri district, Madhya Pradesh), are still being practised. In this regard, this Department had already issued advisory on 25th July 2017 suggesting the states to avoid any coercive measures for ensuring construction and usage of toilets."

"It is reiterated that coercive action taken by anybody, including government or elected officials or private individuals with respect

to sanitation behaviour of any kind is totally unacceptable under any circumstance. In such cases, the concerned authorities should prosecute the guilty to the fullest extent of the applicable law."

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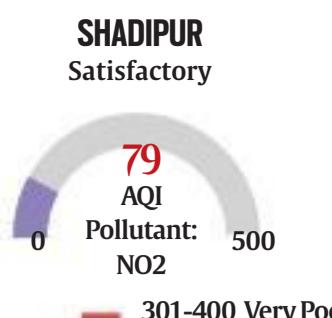
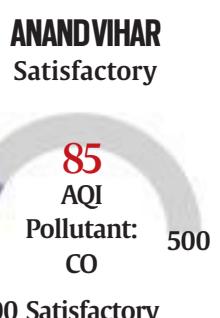
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The two accused involved in the Shivpuri incident, identified as H



0-50 Good



Two held for  
duplicating 1,000  
people of  
Rs 10 crore

New Delhi: Two men were arrested for allegedly duping over 1,000 people of over Rs 10 crore on the pretext of linking their Aadhaar cards with their mobile numbers, said police.

According to police, the accused have been identified as Alimuddin Ansari (27) and Manoj Yadav (31). A case was registered at Dwarka North police station after a man filed a complaint against the accused on April 1.

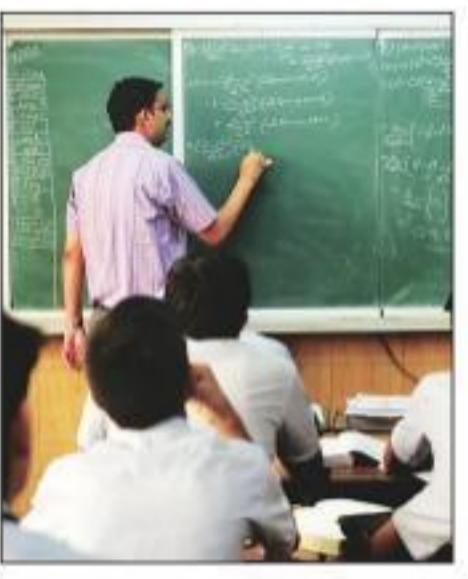
In his complaint, the man alleged that he received a call from someone claiming to be a customer care executive of a telecom operator. As per the complaint, the accused sought his debit card details, including the CVV number, and even got him to forward the OTP message he received on his phone. When he checked his account the next day, he found Rs 41 lakh missing.

Police said the money was transferred to four different bank accounts, which were traced to the accused. According to police, the accused ran multiple call centres in Jharkhand and West Bengal to run the scam. ENS

WILL ADDRESS SHORTFALL

## 4,000 teachers cleared for appointment to MCD schools

ANANYA TIWARI  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27



DSSSB has sent the dossiers of the teachers to the MCDs

around 2,000 vacancies.

"The selection process has happened, and we are at certificate verification stage," said the official.

"This is a regular process carried out by the MCD every few years," said Mukhtaya Mandal, ADE, SDMC.

There are 989 vacant posts in SDMC schools, of which 667 are being held by temporary teachers. "We have received the dossiers of 850 teachers," Mandal said.

At the North MCD, the DSSSB has sent 1,526 dossiers of teachers, and the letters of appointment have been sent to them, said Vedula Reddy, Deputy Commissioner, North Corporation.

"Around 600 posts are filled by temporary teachers, out of approximately 1,200 vacant posts. We have been given dossiers of 1,401 teachers for primary schools and 125 of teachers for special needs students. A total of 82 special needs teachers have been appointed already," said Reddy.

### EXPLAINED E. A major boost

NEW RECRUITMENT will be a major boost for MCD schools which are facing a shortage of teachers. At the primary level, most of these schools fail to meet the student-teacher ratio of 30:1, as mandated by the RTE Act. MCD schools face other challenges, like lack of desks and benches and providing money to students for uniforms and bags. Lack of infrastructure and poor quality of education are among reasons cited for a high dropout rate.

## 'Speeding' bus hits sisters on scooter, 20-yr-old dead

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NOIDA, SEPTEMBER 27



The victim's sister, who was injured in the accident

A 20-YEAR-OLD woman died and her sister was injured after their scooter was hit by a bus in Ghaziabad's Kavi Nagar Friday morning. The victim, Akansha Srivastava, was riding pillion while her sister Reena was driving when the incident took place.

"We received information that two people on a scooter were hit by a bus in Bulandshahr Industrial Area. While it is part of investigation, it appears that the bus was speeding. We have obtained the number of the bus and a case has been registered against an unknown person for rash driving," said an official from Kavi Nagar police station.

According to police, the victim was a Ghaziabad resident and worked part-time at a local dairy store while studying at a local college.

According to police, the bus allegedly hit the two-wheeler from the rear. The impact was such that the victim was dragged on the ground along with it. Akansha was rushed to a nearby government hospital,

Akansha was among five sisters and would earn for the family since their father had been unemployed for the past few years.

The scooter belonged to Reena and she was dropping Akansha to her office at Kanha Dairy, which was a daily ritual. As the two reached the industrial area, Reena stopped the vehicle and waited to take a turn at one of the signals.

"Reena told us the scooter was stationary and she did not notice vehicles coming from behind. It must have been a few seconds after they had stopped when the speeding bus hit the vehicle. Reena recalled being flipped off the scooter, which saved her life, but Akansha got dragged, which injured her very severely. She was hard working and would change jobs frequently to support the family," said Sagar, their cousin.

The family hails from Etah and has been living in a rented accommodation close to Bisrakh Gate for the past seven years.

Akansha had pursued an engineering course in Saharanpur before shifting with the family to their Ghaziabad home and taking up a job.

## Held for molestation, out on bail, man goes on arson rampage

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

The accused have been identified as Akash (19) and Kuldeep (30), both residents of a JJ colony in Sawda, Rohini.

According to police, Akash, who secured bail after three weeks in prison, allegedly torched the vehicles to take revenge on the residents of the colony and other residents from the locality.

"We received a complaint about the first incident in Sawda on September 23. The next day, two other complaints were registered by residents of Shiv Vihar and Bhagat Singh Colony. We recovered CCTV footage and checked records of criminals in the area. A policeman identified Akash, who had secured bail recently. Akash confessed to the crime when caught," said S D Mishra, DCP (Rohini). Police said Akash works as a labourer.

"During questioning, the accused told us that after his release, he approached Kuldeep. On September 23, they set fire to three cars and one bike in Sawda at night. The next night, they



The accused torched 12 vehicles in three areas. Express

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"During questioning, the accused told us that after his release, he approached Kuldeep. On September 23, they set fire to three cars and one bike in Sawda at night. The next night, they

torched over four bikes and four cars in two other colonies," said DCP Mishra.

A case was registered against the accused under IPC section 435 (mischief by fire or explosive substance with intent to cause damage) at Kanjhawala police station.

Akash told police about Kuldeep and he was arrested later in the day. Kuldeep, also a labourer, has allegedly been involved in theft cases in the area. Police recovered a pistol and a knife from the two accused.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI), one of the largest Public Sector Undertakings ensuring the food security of the Nation, invites only ONLINE APPLICATIONS for the posts of MANAGER (GENERAL/DEPOT/ MOVEMENT/ACCOUNTS/TECHNICAL/CIVIL ENGINEERING/ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERING/HINDI) in its Depots and Offices spread all over the Country from eligible candidates who fulfil the prescribed qualifications, age, experience etc.

1. Candidates may apply Online through [www.fci.gov.in](http://www.fci.gov.in)

2. For details regarding eligibility criteria, reservation, age, etc., candidates may please refer to the detailed advertisement published in 'Employment News/Rozgar Samachar' dated 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 or in the FCI website [www.fci.gov.in](http://www.fci.gov.in)

3. Submission of Online Application Form will commence from 28-09-2019, 10:00 Hrs. The last date for Online application is 27-10-2019 till 16:00 Hrs.

## 5 Golden Retrievers add bite to police force



Golden Retrievers have been inducted after 15 years

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

we have included trained dogs in the team. These dogs are taught to sniff and detect explosives. We are planning to include more Golden Retrievers this year," said Rajan Bhagat, DCP (crime branch).

Police said there are 60 dogs, excluding Golden Retrievers, in the canine squad in Delhi. These include breeds like Labradors and German Shepherds.

"We are waiting for the new dogs to get acclimated to the weather. They will be put on duty soon. We also have one Cocker Spaniel which was inducted this year," added Bhagat.

"We wanted to include Golden Retrievers in the squad but the breed is rare in training centres. Also, only a few of them can resist the harsh weather. This year,

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## CELEBRATIONS ALONG ROUTE FROM AIRPORT

## As PM arrives in capital today, Delhi BJP rolls out red carpet

ABHINAV RAJPUT  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

The Prime Minister at the UN headquarters in New York Friday. Reuters

FROM SINGING and dancing to a show of "cultural diversity", the BJP has planned a grand reception for Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he returns from a visit to the United States Saturday.

Delhi BJP vice-president Abhay Verma, who is part of the team organising the event, said they expect the crowd, which will include BJP leaders and workers, to touch 50,000 people.

Also invited are musicians, dancers and singers who will be dressed in "traditional attire" to welcome the PM along the 2.3 km stretch from the airport. "Delhi represents India; it is a place of cultural diversity, so the idea is to make the place feel like

MPs, general secretary (organisation) Siddharthan, MCD mayors, standing committee heads and leaders of the house of the three corporations are scheduled to go to the airport to receive the PM.

Morcha leaders, councillors and district and mandal leaders will be present outside.

MP Vijay Goel said, "We are going to celebrate his return because he has given us moments of immense pride at the event. He made a strong pitch against terrorism in the presence of (US President) Donald Trump... He has shown the world that he is a statesman who is not only transforming India but is also a decisive leader in the global fora."

Delhi BJP vice-president Jai Prakash said there will be "Haryanvi, Bhojpuri, Assamese, Uttarakhandi and South Indian" a mini-India," Verma said.

Senior leaders said the party wants to "match up to the attendance in Houston" during the "Howdy Modi" event.

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari, Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel, Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta, all seven Delhi

singers and musicians dressed in traditional attire.

Party leader Kuljeet Chahal said there will be hoardings and banners welcoming the PM along the route, and party workers will line up to greet him. "People have been given the 6 pm time and 10 spots have been especially earmarked where people with drums and other musical instruments will be stationed," he said.

Office bearers from the Central team, including BJP national general secretary Arun Singh and Delhi co-in-charge Tarun Chugh, are also likely to be present. Last October, the Delhi BJP had planned a reception for the PM when he returned after being conferred with the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018. The scale of the celebration has been increased this time.



## SPRUCING UP

A worker cleans the fountain at Vijay Chowk, Friday. Preveen Khanna

## DDC, Harvard tie up to study free bus rides, women's safety

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE THINK-TANK of the Delhi government, Dialogue &amp; Development Commission, is collaborating with a research team from Harvard University and the World Bank to study the impact of free bus rides for women on their safety and mobility. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had announced that bus scheme will be implemented from October 29.

The data will be collected from a sample of approximately 800 women living across the capital through an initial household baseline survey, as well as repeated telephone surveys, before and after the policy's launch.

The study aims to analyse mobility patterns and perceived

safety before and after the policy's launch, using several comparison groups of individuals less likely to be impacted by it. These groups will include both women and men who travel regularly but do not use buses.

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For buses, 5,500 former home guards as marshals

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

TO ENSURE the safety of women passengers travelling in DTC buses, the Delhi government will appoint 5,500 former home guards as marshals in DTC and cluster buses plying in the capital. The move came after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal met former home guards outside his residence Friday.

In a statement, the government said recruitment and appointment of marshals will be completed before Diwali. The government will seek applications for the posts by advertising in newspapers within two-three days. In a tweet, Kejriwal said the government will appoint former home guards as marshals, saying that women in buses will feel safer.

"First priority will be given to home guards who have served for three years. Those who have served for two years will then be chosen," the government said in a statement.

Delhi Home Minister Satyendar Jain said that as per official data, there are 5,000 ex-home guards who were let go.

He said all 5,000 are expected to get jobs, adding they will only have to submit certificates with proof of their age and experience for the job.

This is the first time that marshals are being deployed in cluster buses.

## Onions at Rs 24/kg at 400 ration shops and 70 mobile vans, says Kejriwal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

STARTING SATURDAY, the Delhi government will sell onions at Rs 23.90/kg at 400 ration shops and through 70 mobile vans in all Assembly constituencies, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced Friday.

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DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## NEGOTIATIONS MAN

UNLIKE BJP president Amit Shah's visit to Matoshree in Mumbai earlier this year to negotiate and seal a seat-sharing deal with Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray for the Lok Sabha polls, both parties are playing down the ongoing negotiations for their share of seats in the Maharashtra Assembly polls next month. While an agreement is considered likely, many BJP indicate that this time Shah will neither go to Matoshree, nor address the media jointly with Uddhav. It would be left to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to do the honours on behalf of the BJP.

## LYRICS OF LANGUAGE

WHETHER IT was the suggestion of the three-language formula in the proposed National Education Policy or advocacy of Hindi by the Home Minister recently, the BJP-led Union government has faced flak from Opposition political leaders of non-Hindi speaking states for several decisions. But one non-Hindi language – Tamil – seems to be a favourite of the country's leadership in its public pronouncements. While President Ram Nath Kovind invoked poet Subramania Bharati's Tamil poem in his address to the nation on the eve of the Independence Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi invoked a quote from Saint Thiruvalluvar at the Red Fort the next day. The latest: Modi invoked Tamil philosopher Kaniyan Pungundranar in his address to the UN General Assembly on Friday.

## IN LAW WE TRUST

SPEAKING AT the release of 'Parameswara to PP', a book on senior advocate PP Rao, considered a doyen of constitutional law, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu ended his speech quoting David Pannick, a leading barrister from the UK and member of the House of Lords who is also in the news for leading the legal team that argued in the historic case against illegality of British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to prorogue Parliament. Naidu used excerpts from Pannick's book and said, "Judges are mere mortals but they are asked to perform a function that is truly divine."

## SC Collegium clears names of 7 judicial officers for Bombay HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE SUPREME Court Collegium has cleared the names of seven judicial officers, including three who had crossed the prescribed age limit, for appointment as judges of the Bombay High Court.

The Collegium, comprising Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justice S A Bobde and N V Ramana, decided to overlook the age norms, keeping in mind the "excellent service record" of the three judicial officers and the "huge pendency" of cases in the High Court.

"The Collegium has duly taken note of the observation made in the file that three Judicial Officers viz. S/ Shri B U. Debadwar, S P Tavade, and S D. Kulkarni had crossed the prescribed age limit of 58-1/2 years on the date of vacancies against which their names have been

recommended. In this regard, while approving the proposal for their elevation we have taken into account the fact that Bombay High Court is grappling with huge pendency of civil as well as criminal cases, as it is functioning with 67 Judges against the total judge-strength of 94 (constituting about 29 per cent vacancies). Apart from this, we have taken into account their excellent service record which reflects that they are persons with all the qualities like high level of judicial acumen, conduct, character and integrity, which make them eminently suitable for elevation. Their judgments have been graded as A/B+," the Collegium resolution, dated September 26, said.

The Collegium also approved the name of a lawyer for appointment to the HC.

It also decided to recommend the elevation of six judicial officers as judges of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

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## Modi, Rouhani discuss Chabahar operationalisation, regional situation

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 27

AT A TIME when the US administration led by President Donald Trump is exercising maximum pressure on Iran and calling it the biggest state sponsor of terrorism, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday met Iran's President Hassan Rouhani and reiterated India's support to give priority to "diplomacy, dialogue and confidence-building" for maintaining peace and security in the Persian Gulf.

From India's strategic perspective, they discussed operationalisation of the Chabahar port at the meeting. "They especially mentioned operationalisation of Chabahar Port and noted its importance as a gateway to and for the landlocked Afghanistan and the Central Asian region," an official statement said. They also agreed to mark the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2020.

After meeting Rouhani on the sidelines of the 74th Session of the General Assembly, Modi tweeted, "Delighted to meet President @HassanRouhani. We had in-depth discussions on the full range of India-Iran ties, and regional & global matters."

The MEA statement also said they discussed bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and global developments of mutual interest. "Noting that India and Iran shared old and civilisational ties, the two leaders positively assessed the progress in bilateral relations since their first meeting at Ufa in 2015," it said.

They "discussed bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on the situation in the region", MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said.

The two leaders could not hold a scheduled meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in June due to scheduling issues.

At the US President's press conference on Wednesday, both Trump and US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo had talked up



PM Narendra Modi with Iranian PM Hassan Rouhani in New York on Thursday. ANI

**EXPLAINED** **E.** Major source of oil import cut off

INDIA, THE world's third biggest oil consumer, meets more than 80 per cent of its oil needs through imports. Iran was its third-largest supplier after Iraq and Saudi Arabia till recently. The six-month-long exemptions from US sanctions to India and seven other countries to buy oil from Iran expired on May 2 as Washington did not extend it. India has not been able to buy oil from Iran after that. The Modi-Rouhani meet comes in this backdrop.

the actions against Iran.

The tension between the two countries came to the fore when on September 24, ahead of the bilateral meeting between Modi and Trump, the US President while responding to questions on Pakistan being the epicentre of terrorism said, "You mentioned Pakistan, Iran will have to be on top of the list because if you really look at the terror states..." This is contrary to Delhi's position with regard to its neighbours.

Tension between Iran and the US on Tehran's nuclear programme has escalated in recent weeks, since Iran has been accused by the US and its allies of attacking two key oil facilities in Saudi Arabia.

At the US President's press conference on Wednesday, both Trump and US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo had talked up



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Singapore's Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly. MEA Twitter/PTI

## Quad meet focuses on free, prosperous Indo-Pacific

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 27

IN A BID to advance openness and economic prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region, foreign ministers of India, US, Australia and Japan met on Thursday to discuss collective efforts and commitment to close cooperation on counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, maritime security cooperation, development finance, and cyber security efforts.

This is the first time that foreign ministers of the Quad countries have met, in a three-level upgrade from joint secretary-level officials. The Quad has met four times since November 2017, when it was revived.

"The US looks forward to another Quad senior officials' meeting on the sidelines of the November 2019 East Asia Summit in Bangkok. We are very much looking forward to future productive discussions that will serve as a jumping-off point for even deeper cooperation in areas of mutual interest to our four countries and to our friends and partners in ASEAN and beyond," a US State Department official said.

In addition to work through

the Quad, US officials said they are looking to expanding cooperation with India through bilateral mechanisms, but also in multilateral fora like those related to the ASEAN.

"If I could single out India's role in the Quad, I think it highlights India's leadership in the Indo-Pacific region; it's one of the many ways that the US and India are now cooperating closely on shared strategic objectives as highlighted during President Trump's meeting with Prime Minister Modi earlier this week; the 2+2 structure that we've set up, and the deepening of our defence partnership, and trilateral relations with Japan as seen in the Malabar exercise that's ongoing," the US official said.

"We really do welcome and support India's emergence as a net security provider in the region and a global actor, and we regard India's contributions as vital to the safeguarding of a rules-based system in the Indo-Pacific. It reflects a shared commitment to uphold the rule of law, counterterrorism cooperation, freedom of navigation, democratic values, and economic growth. These are all values we want to advance across the region."

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In addition to work through

EAM: SAARC a story of deliberate obstacles, terror one of them

SHUBHAJIT ROY  
NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 27

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday said that SAARC is not just a story of missed opportunities but also of deliberate obstacles, one of them being terrorism.

Jaishankar said this, without directly mentioning Pakistan, at the SAARC foreign ministers' meeting on Thursday.

While Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi boycotted Jaishankar's statement, senior official and Pakistan foreign ministry spokesperson Mohammad Faisal was present at the meeting.

"Ours is really not just a story of missed opportunities but also of deliberate obstacles. Terrorism is among them. In our view, elimination of terrorism in all its forms is a precondition not only for fruitful cooperation, but also for the very survival of our region itself," Jaishankar told the meeting, which took place on the sidelines of the UNGA.

"I reiterate our leaders' statement in Kathmandu in 2014, where they called for full and effective implementation of SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism, including through enacting necessary legislation at the national level to root out terrorism. The relevance of SAARC would be determined by these actions against terrorism and this will decide our collective journey of the future becoming more productive," said Jaishankar.

He said the example of South Asia Satellite is instructive of how India has been taking up initiatives for prosperity in the neighbourhood. South Asia Satellite, launched in 2017 with an intention to arrive at scientific solutions to address poverty in the SAARC region, has impact in sectors like health, education, disaster response weather forecasting, he said.

Qureshi did not attend the SAARC foreign ministers' meeting as long as Jaishankar was present. He came after Jaishankar left the venue, and said, "Do you think I will sit down with the butcher of Kashmir?"

An Indian official, referring to Qureshi's boycott and remark, said: "Such drama will not work. Pakistan has to create a conducive atmosphere for the SAARC process to go ahead."

## EC reschedules bypolls to 15 Karnataka seats to December 5

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE ELECTION Commission on Friday rescheduled bypolls to 15 Assembly seats in Karnataka, pending the Supreme Court's decision on a plea by 17 rebel Congress and JD(S) MLAs who have challenged their disqualification from the Assembly.

The bypolls, which were scheduled to be held on October 21, will now be conducted on December 5. The results will be declared on December 9.

The nominations already filed by the EC, till date, will be scrutinised on November 19, the EC said.

The change was notified a day after the poll panel assured the top court that it would postpone the bypolls, since the bench said it did not want to give a piecemeal order and would prefer to decide the MLAs' case once and for all. The court will now take up the matter on October 22.

The MLAs have questioned former Speaker K R Ramesh Kumar's refusal to accept their resignations and instead disqualify

them on July 26 for the duration of the current Assembly. Their resignations culminated in the fall of the Congress-JD(S) government and paved the way for a BJP government led by B S Yeddyurappa.

In their plea, the legislators contended that their right to resign as MLA and carry on any vocation of their choice, including public service, could not have been denied by the Speaker "by a completely illegal and unconstitutional order". The action was "arbitrary" and violated their fundamental rights under Articles 19 and 21, they said.

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them on July 26 for the duration of the current Assembly. Their resignations culminated in the fall of the Congress-JD(S) government and paved the way for a BJP government led by B S Yeddyurappa.

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# Pawar calls off ED visit over 'law & order situation'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 27

NCP CHIEF Sharad Pawar on Friday called off the visit he had planned to the Mumbai office of the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which had named him in a money laundering case registered in connection with the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank scam, but only after he made a point that he is not a spent political force yet.

Pawar supporters had started gathering near Ballard Estate in south Mumbai, where the ED office is located, despite prohibitory orders being imposed in the area under CrPC Section 144 since late Thursday.

As tensions mounted, the ED reiterated on Friday it had not summoned Pawar. Following this, Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Barve called on the NCP chief at his

Sharad Pawar at his residence. *Ashish Kale*

Peddar Road residence and requested him not to go to the ED office in view of a possible law and order situation. Hundreds of NCP supporters had gathered around the ED office by then despite the prohibitory orders.

For a party that had been wrecked by desertions, Friday was its best day in months.

"The Mumbai Police commissioner met me and apprised me of the possibility that the law and order situation in the city could deteriorate. He requested me not to go to the ED office. I have been the home minister of this state and do believe that the life of a common man should not be disturbed. Hence, I have decided to call off my visit today," Pawar said told mediapersons.

Pawar supporters had started gathering near Ballard Estate in south Mumbai, where the ED office is located, despite prohibitory orders being imposed in the area under CrPC Section 144 since late Thursday.

As tensions mounted, the ED reiterated on Friday it had not summoned Pawar. Following this, Mumbai Police Commissioner Sanjay Barve called on the NCP chief at his

presence, they would call me on the phone and give prior notification," Pawar said.

On September 24, the ED had registered a case of alleged money laundering against Pawar, his nephew Ajit Pawar and several others, including leaders of other parties. The next day, Pawar had said that he would volunteer-

ily go to the ED office, as he did not want the agency to believe that he had vanished or was avoiding an inquiry.

The NCP had planned to make as much of as possible of the visit to the ED, with a show of strength by the party faithful.

Early Friday, senior police officers, including Mumbai Joint Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Vinoy Kumar Choubey, visited Pawar's residence, requesting him not to go to the ED office. But the NCP leadership, whose entire top brass was huddled inside the residence, was in no mood to relent, and it was only after the police commissioner met Pawar that the plan was called off.

Pawar, meanwhile, received support from parties like the Congress and the Samajawadi Party. SP Maharashtra chief Abu Asim Azmi paid him a visit while Congress workers donned "Gandhi topics" emblazoned with

the plan was called off.

Pawar said that he would now embark on a tour of the flood-affected regions of Pune district, which have been lashed by heavy rain.

Pawar said that he would

# Ajit Pawar quits as NCP legislator, goes incommunicado

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, PUNE, SEPTEMBER 27

Ajit Pawar

Pune, said: "I have not been able to directly speak to him (Ajit) after I got to know about his decision. He did not consult me... I feel he could not tolerate that I was booked."

Pawar said that Ajit told his son Parth that politics has stooped to the lowest level. "He told his sons that it was better to stay away from politics..."

The NCP chief, however, denied any family conflict and claimed that he had the last word in the Pawar clan.

Over the last few years, there has been speculation over who would take control of the NCP after Pawar. At 79, Pawar remains the party's binding force. While Ajit earlier had been groomed to eventually take over charge, there is a strong lobby within the party that does not agree with his brusque style of functioning.

There had also been speculation that the entry of Rohit Pawar, the grand nephew of the NCP chief, had made Ajit jittery.

## INX MEDIA CASE

# CBI opposes 'flight risk' Chidambaram's bail plea in Delhi HC

PRITAM PAL SINGH  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

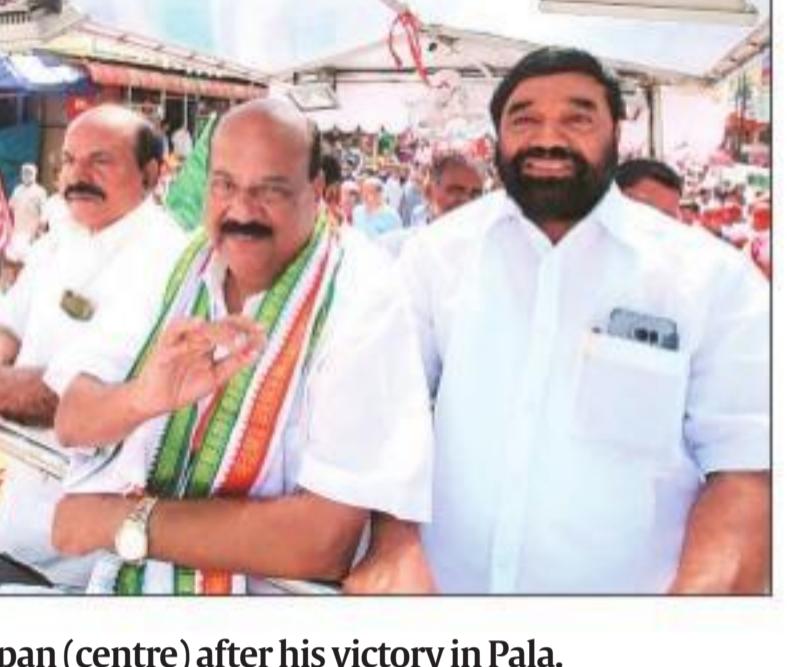
15 days, and is currently in judicial custody at Tihar jail till October 3. In the case, the remaining accused, including his son Karti Chidambaram, are either on anticipatory bail or regular bail.

Referring to Karti's relief in the matter, SG Mehta on Friday argued that Chidambaram was not entitled for the same, as "corruption by a public official breach the public trust and harm the financial stability of the country".

Mehta argued that many documents were recovered and statements have been recorded which directly link the criminal conspiracy of illegal gratification to the petitioner (Chidambaram) and co-conspirator, his son.

Sibal informed that he was instructed by Chidambaram to clarify that he has never met INX Media co-owner Indrani Mukerjea, the approver in the case. He said that Chidambaram has "no recollection" of meeting a delegation of INX Media in his office in March 2007 but would nonetheless rely on the entries in the visitors' book to confirm such a meeting.

To this, Mehta claimed that the "visitors' book has been destroyed due to lapse of time". "However, as per the entries of Oberoi Hotel, New Delhi, where Peter and Indrani (Mukerjea) stayed from March 6-9, 2007, an internal vehicle of the hotel was used by the two to visit the office of the then Finance Minister on March 9, 2007," the SG said. He claimed Indrani said she and Peter met Chidambaram at his North Block office, who asked them to meet his son and suggested that they help him in his business.



Mani C Kappan (centre) after his victory in Pala.

# Ruling LDF wins Pala constituency, ends 54-yr hold of Kerala Congress (M)

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOCHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE RULING LDF won the bypoll for the Pala Assembly seat on Friday, ending the five-decade supremacy of the Kerala Congress (M) in the constituency.

Over 71 per cent voters had registered their ballot in the bypoll, conducted on September 23, which was necessitated following the death of sitting legislator K M Mani — the founder-chief of the Kerala Congress (M) — in April.

Mani had held the seat uninterrupted for 54 years till his death.

Mani C Kappan of the NCP — an ally of the CPI(M) in Kerala — defeated Mani loyalist Jose Tom, who had to fight the election as an independent candidate after party chairman P J Joseph refused to allot him the party's official symbol. BJP candidate N Hari came third.

Kappan told reporters, "This is a victory of the LDF. This is an approval of the LDF government's policies and development projects."

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the mandate is a recognition for the government and its pro-people policies.

Senior Kerala Congress (M) leader Jose K Mani — the son of K M Mani — promised that his party will rectify its mistakes.

**PCC chief Mullappally Ramachandran attributed the victory of the LDF to the internal problems within the Kerala Congress (M), currently locked in a factional feud**

"We accept the mandate of the people. We will examine the reasons for the defeat. Kerala Congress (M) and the UDF will rectify its mistakes and win back confidence of the people. Politics is not about fearing defeat and brimming in confidence in a victory," he said.

Congress state president Mullappally Ramachandran attributed the victory of the LDF to the internal problems within the Kerala Congress (M) — the party is currently locked in a factional feud between Jose K Mani and party chairman Joseph.

The defeat in its stronghold is likely to trigger a fresh spell of internal squabbling in the party, which is a prominent ally of Congress in central Kerala.

The BJP, meanwhile, has suffered a big dent in its vote-share. The saffron party, which surprised many by getting over 24,000 votes in the 2016 Assembly election, lost nearly 6,500 votes in the bypolls.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 27

THE BJP's Yuvraj Singh won the Hamirpur Assembly bypoll on Friday by a margin of 17,867 votes. While SP candidate Manoj Kumar Prajapati finished second, the BSP's Naushad Ali came third. The Congress's Hardeepak Nishad ended at the fourth spot.

While the BJP nominee got 38.55 per cent votes, the vote-share for the SP candidate was 29.29 per cent.

The Hamirpur Assembly seat fell vacant following the conviction of BJP MLA Ashok Kumar Chandel in April this year in a 22-year-old murder case.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Electoral

Election Commission (EC); Mandavi polled 38,836 votes (33.89 per cent). Bhimsen Mandavi of CPI finished a distant third with 6 per cent of votes.

Congress chief spokesperson Shailesh Nitin Trivedi said the victory is a result of constructive policies of the Bhupesh Baghel government and hard work of state Congress chief Mohan Markam, for whom this was the first election after assuming charge of the state unit. The result was made possible also by decisions such as return of land in Lohandiguda, increase in bonuses for tendu leaves and paddy.

The by-election was billed as an electoral battle not just between the Congress and the BJP but also between wives of two leaders killed in Maoist attacks. While BJP candidate Ojaswi Mandavi is wife of Bhima Mandavi, Devi Karma's husband Mahendra Karma was killed in a Maoist attack in 2013.

After 20 rounds of counting, Devi Karma won 50,028 votes, or 43.65 per cent of the votes polled, according to official

Chief Minister Baghel tweeted, "By giving us their blessings, the people have shown faith in work done towards building a new Chhattisgarh in Dantewada bypoll. This victory is also a win for the dreams of the late Mahendra Karma. Congratulations and good wishes to Shrimati Devi Karma."

While congratulating Devi Karma on her victory, former Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Raman Singh accused the Congress-led state government of misusing power, and said the party will now concentrate on bypolls for Chitrakote, scheduled on October 21.

At that point, party leaders said, the state government stepped in and made it a prestige battle — the Chief Minister spent time in Dantewada, the PCC chief camped in Bastar, and strategists such as Rajesh Tiwari spent more than a month in the area.

## BJP victorious in Badharghat seat in Tripura

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE BHARATIYA Janata Party won the by-election to Badharghat (SC) Assembly constituency in Tripura on Friday.

BJP's Mimi Majumder defeated her nearest rival, Communist Party of India (Marxist)'s Bulti Biswas, by 5,276 votes.

Congress nominee Ratan Chandra Das secured the third place with 9,105 votes.

The seat fell vacant due to the death of BJP MLA Dilip Sarkar in April this year.

Both the BJP and the CPI(M) got fewer votes in comparison to the Assembly elections.

## 9 MONTHS AFTER J&amp;K PANCHAYAT POLLS, WORK YET TO BEGIN

# Panches, sarpanches stay put in hotels, fear visiting villages

BASHAARAT MASOOD  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 27

IN SEPTEMBER last year, Abdul Rashid Dar was picked up by militants from his home at Pinglisch Tral in Pulwama district. While a group beat him up, another filmed a video that went viral. In the video, the militants asked Dar to stay away from elections and force his son, a special police officer (SPO), to resign. Dar agreed and apologised.

Two months later, Dar was the only sarpanch from his panchayat halqa (each panchayat halqa includes 8-10 wards) to contest the panchayat polls held in Jammu and Kashmir after three years. But there was no contest, he was elected unopposed.

For nine months, Dar has been putting up in a hotel in

Srinagar that is home to some 180 panches and sarpanches from various parts of the Valley.

Now that the government has issued notification for the Block Development Council (BDC) polls in the state — for the first time in its history — Dar calls it a "farce".

"I put my life on the line by defying militant threats and contesting polls. How will they conduct BDC elections when most panch and sarpanch seats are vacant? Why don't they conduct bypolls for the panchayats first?" says Dar.

Official figures reveal that 61% of panchayat wards in the Valley are vacant. Of 18,832 panchayat wards, panches have been elected only in 7,596 wards. The government, however, has notified only 7,308 panches, since in the balance 288 panchayats, only one panchayat was elected. Similarly 45 per cent sarpanch wards too are vacant. Of

the 2,375 sarpanch wards in the Valley, 1,558 have been elected and only 1,311 notified.

In fact, most panches and sarpanches have been elected without a contest. Of the 7,596 panches elected in the Valley, more than 3,500 have been elected unopposed. Among sarpanches, 530 were elected unopposed out of the 1,558 elected.

Those elected also feel deceived. "It has been nine months, but I haven't spent a single rupee. This is true for most of us," says Mehraj-ud-din Rather, a panchayat halqa. Like Dar, he is also staying in a Srinagar hotel. "Money has come into the accounts of some of us, but nothing has been utilised," he says.

A senior official of the Rural Development Department agrees. "The process of approval is multi-tier. After consultation of

panches and sarpanches, the panchayat submits a plan to BDO (Block Development Officer). After collecting the plans from his block, the BDO forwards it to District Planning Officer, who forwards it to the District Development Commissioner for final approval," he says. "Execution of work has started in some panchayats, around 10%," said a senior official.

Government officials said a big portion of the money has already been released for the panchayats. "Under the 14th Finance Commission, we have earmarked Rs 3,000 crore for the panchayats," says Secretary, Panchayat and Rural Development, Sheetal Nanda. "Of this, we have already released Rs 1,300 crore to the panchayats."

Hamza Mir, a 70-year-old panchayat from Batagund in Tral, says his work plan has been approved

— a rare case — but work is yet to begin. "I can't go to my village to get the work executed," he says, sitting in the Srinagar hotel. "I can go if only I am provided security."

For the government, security to panches and sarpanches is becoming a headache. Hence, it has chosen to accommodate hundreds in hotels in Srinagar.

In one hotel in Srinagar, 180 panches and sarpanches from Baramulla, Kupwara, Budgam and Pulwama are staying for nine months. Another hotel in high-security Indira Nagar, Srinagar, has been reserved for migrant Pandit panches and sarpanches from south Kashmir. "We go to our block office once a week or fortnight. Usually the concerned official is absent that day," says Rather, a panchayat from Sopore. "How can we follow our

cases from a hotel 50 km away?"

The government has not yet opened joint bank accounts for the panchayats. An official of the Rural Development Department says the panchayats have to make separate bank accounts for each scheme they conceive. A sarpanch and a panchayat secretary — a government employee — are joint account holders.

In panchayats that are without a panchayat and sarpanch, the government has appointed administrators — gazetted officers from any government department other than the Rural Development Department — to run them. "In simpler terms, half the Valley would be run by the administrators as was done before the panchayat polls," says a Rural Development Department official.

**FULL REPORT  
www.indianexpress.com**

## Fresh restrictions in Kashmir

Srinagar: Fresh restrictions were reimposed in several parts of the old city in Srinagar and authorities feared protests in view of congregational prayers.

Officials in Srinagar said there was no major law and order problem in the Valley and the situation was peaceful.

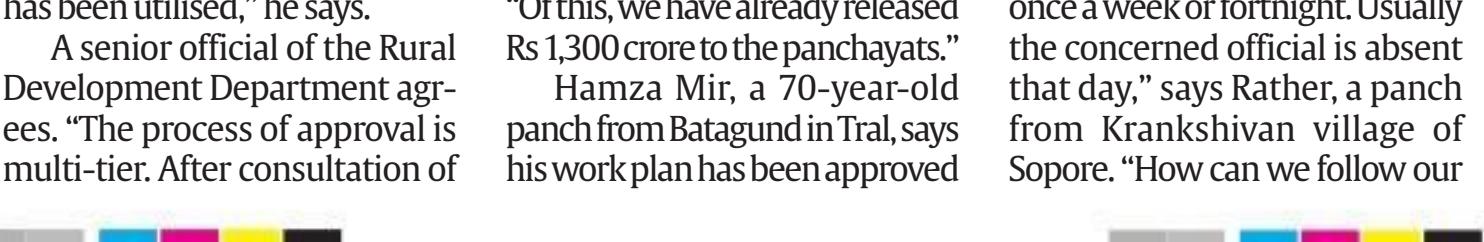
Kashmir on Friday observed a complete shutdown for the 54th day, with public transport off the roads and business establishments shut.

A senior official said that restrictions were imposed in several parts of the old city in Srinagar and authorities feared protests in view of congregational prayers.

In the morning, the authorities placed concertina wire and prevented public movement in old city. By evening, as the situation was peaceful, the security forces eased restrictions in the areas where restrictions were reimposed. ENS



A security man stands guard at Srinagar's Residency Road. PTI







Mukul Roy

## MARADU FLATS FACE DEMOLITION

## SC asks Kerala to proceed, pay interim relief of Rs 25 lakh to each flat owner

ANANTHAKRISHNANG  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE SUPREME Court on Friday asked Kerala government to proceed with the demolition of flats built in violation of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) norms at Maradu in Ernakulam district. This came after the state gave an undertaking that the process will be completed in 138 days.

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra and S Ravindra Bhat also directed the state to pay an interim compensation of Rs 25 lakh each to the affected flat owners and said the state can recover this from whoever is found responsible for the illegal constructions.

The court awarded the compensation following upon the precedent set in the case of Kant Enclave in Faridabad which was ordered to be demolished. "We can't leave them... You have to pay something. They need shelter too," Justice Mishra told senior advocate Harish Salve, who appeared for the state's Chief Secretary Tom Jose.

The top court had on September 11, 2018, held that the land on which Kant Enclave in Faridabad stood was forest land and ordered demolition of all construction there carried out after August 18, 1992. It had also asked the builder, R Kant & Co, to refund the investment made by people who got land from it, with interest at the rate of 18 per cent.

On Friday, the bench said the "rest (of the amount) will depend on each case".

The court rejected the prayer by residents that they should not be evicted till they receive the interim compensation.

At the outset, Salve submitted the affidavit containing the timeline for demolition. He also wondered if the demolition was a reasonable option considering its impact on environment and if the flats could be vacated instead. "Should never have been built... But are we compounding the problem by demolition," he submitted.

But the bench did not relent.

"It has to be... If you can't, we will ask for costs and ask somebody else to," said Justice Mishra, adding that "government is not

willing to" carry out the demolition.

Justice Mishra said "our primary concern is no such violation in coastal zones". The bench then asked Salve what the state's proposal was. Salve said the state had drawn up an "action plan" under which demolition will be completed in 138 days.

"What about the compensation?" asked Justice Mishra.

Justice Bhat then pointed out that there was the example of compensation paid to residents of Kant Enclave. The bench inquired about the price of apartments. A counsel appearing for some residents said it was about Rs 1 crore now and Rs 39 lakh at the time of purchase about eight years back.

Salve suggested that the court set up a commission which will look into the aspects of valuation etc.

The senior counsel urged the court to also make the builders/promoters parties, saying they should also suffer the legal consequences. Agreeing, the court issued them notices and asked the state to provide their details.

Salve told the court that some residents had filed cheating cases against the builders and they should go on separately as the builders may otherwise cite it to deny compensation. The bench clarified that those cases will run separately.

Justice Mishra said some panchayat and municipality officials may also have been responsible and asked, "Should we hold them responsible?"

Salve said somebody will have to first see what had happened. The municipality will say there was a central order which was stayed by the High Court and so we allowed, he added.

The senior counsel requested the court to call for a report, but the bench refused and said, "We already called for a report and can't examine that again."

Fixing the matter for hearing next on October 25, the court said it will appoint a retired judge to look into the other aspects of the demolition.

The state suggested a three-member committee, but the bench said one judge was enough and asked the Chief Secretary to suggest names.



There are 343 units in the four apartment complexes which face demolition. Express

## Flat owners welcome order on compensation, builders worried

SHAJU PHILIP  
KOCHI, SEPTEMBER 27

FLAT OWNERS at Maradu on Friday welcomed the Supreme Court order that they be paid interim compensation, but the builders are worried about the directive that the damages be recovered from them.

The apex court has ordered Kerala government to pay interim compensation of Rs 25 lakh to each flat owner within four weeks. The court stated that the amount should be recovered from builders. The court had earlier ordered that four apartments constructed in violation of CRZ norms be razed and served an ultimatum to the state government to execute this in a time-bound manner.

Maradu Home Protection Samithi, an organisation of 350 odd flat owners, welcomed the order. Its chairman Advocate Shamsudeen Karunagappally said, "We are ready to take compensation, but it should be on par with the current market price of our flats. Also, there should be an undertaking from the government that it would guarantee that the builders pay the entire cost of our flats in a time-bound manner."

One of the builders said, "We have been victimised for faults of government officials and the coastal management authority. The court hasn't heard us. The controversy has affected not only our business but also the real estate sector. The directive to pay compensation would wipe us out."

The police have registered cases against three builders and frozen their accounts following

complaints from residents. Sources said even resale of flats in other apartments constructed by the four builders is now difficult. "We have to pay our staff. If we can't operate bank accounts, how will we run the business," a builder said.

Of the builders, three are based in Kochi and one in Chennai.

Jain Constructions and Housing, based in Chennai, built Jain Coral Cove. The firm has been in the construction sector since 1987 and has built 180-odd residential projects in South India. Ashok Mehta is its chairman.

Holy Faith Builders And Developers Private Limited in Kochi began operations in 2005. Its Holy Faith H2O is identified for demolition. Managing Director San Francisco has stakes in companies in plantations, tourism and finance sectors. Kochi-based Alfa Ventures built the Alfa Serene. The firm has stakes in apartments and commercial projects mainly in Kochi and is headed by Paul Raj.

KP Varkey and VS Builders are builders of Golden Kayaloram. Founded in 2003, the group has nine apartment and commercial projects in Kerala. It has sister concerns in gold, hotel, timber and transport sectors. KV Jose is managing director of the firm.

## Tamil Nadu police investigate Mumbai racket in NEET impersonation case

ARUN JANARDHANAN  
CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 27

INVESTIGATION BY Tamil Nadu CB-CID into a case in which a Mumbai student allegedly impersonated and took the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for medical admission on behalf of a candidate from Tamil Nadu is leading to a Mumbai-based racket and a transaction of "not less than Rs 20 lakh", it is learnt.

Main accused Udit Surya and his father, Dr KS Venkitesh, a senior government doctor at Stanley Medical College in Chennai, had allegedly hired a person to write the exam for Surya this year.

While an anonymous complaint about the impersonation and Surya's admission in Theni Medical College led to their arrest, Tamil Nadu CB-CID will soon publish the photograph of the suspected Mumbai student who took the test for Surya, sources said.

The difference between the Mumbai student's photograph in NEET examination hall ticket and mark cards and Surya's address and his photograph used for admission in Theni Medical College had helped the police ascertain there was a case of impersonation.

An officer who is part of the probe team said Surya and Venkitesh claim to have approached the Mumbai student, whose identity has not been ascertained yet, through touts. "A NEET coaching centre in Chennai led them to touts, as it was evident that Surya was unlikely to clear NEET due to his poor performance in previous attempts and coaching," the officer said. "They have paid not less than Rs 20 lakh to touts and the student who wrote the exam. We have evidence of his father's

knowledge of Surya and his father's interrogation said they have confessed to the crime, and the confessions were recorded digitally for further evidence. They refused to reveal several details even though they confessed to the crime and gave details on how they executed it," the officer said.

Surya, Venkitesh and the latter's wife, who were absconding for more than a week, had earlier moved a bail plea in Madurai bench of Madras High Court. After the court observed that charges were serious and refused to take an immediate decision, a CB-CID team took custody of the three from a lodge in Tirupati two days ago. The court Thursday allowed Surya's mother to go, and sent Surya and Venkitesh to judicial custody.

## MP HONEYTRAP CASE

## Special DG accuses DGP of trying to tarnish his image

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOJAL, SEPTEMBER 27

AMID SPECULATION over names of people involved in the alleged honeytrap racket that has dominated headlines in Madhya Pradesh, Special DG Purushottam Sharma has accused the state's topmost police officer, DGP V K Singh, of resorting to a "low-level" campaign to defame him.

Three days ago, Singh asked Sharma to explain why a flat had been rented for the cyber cell in Ghaziabad without the knowledge or permission from police headquarters. The flat has now been vacated. The notice was issued amid media reports that a flat rented by an IPS officer near Delhi had been used by people involved in the alleged racket.

The matter came to light recently in Indore, where an engineer with Indore Municipal Corporation approached the police with a complaint that he was being blackmailed with a sex slip.

Sharma, who is attending a conference organised by the Kerala government at Thiruvananthapuram, told *The Indian Express* that he got to know about the notice and the DGP's statement – given to a local newspaper – on Thursday.

He said he was shocked to learn that the news clippings had been deliberately circulated in police headquarters and on social media to tarnish his image.

The special DG, who is also in-charge of the cyber cell, spoke to Chief Minister Kamal Nath to present his side of the story. He said the flat had been rented only a fortnight ago and was meant to facilitate the stay of constables and head constables "who go to Delhi to carry out raids and arrest culprits. If they stay in hotels and claim TA/DA, it will run into lakhs. Where is the honeytrap in this?"

Sharma said he had sent a copy of the rent agreement to the headquarters. "I did not seek sanction. I have been using my discretionary funds," he said. "I am the seniormost (in line of next DGP) and have four-and-a-half years to go in service. DGs come and DGs go. It does not matter if I become DG or not. But senior officers should not resort to such a low level and engage in witch hunt."

Sources in the police headquarters confirmed that the notice was sent by the DGP to Sharma. Singh's phone was switched off.

Sources, however, said the flat had been rented nearly two months ago and not last fortnight. When the agreement reached the headquarters, the DGP was not in town.

Sharma got in touch with the IPS association with a request to call a meeting and stop name-calling, which he said was damaging the image of the police force.

## NASA craft circling Moon unable to spot Vikram lander, will check again on Oct 14

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 27

The image of the targeted landing site released by NASA. PTI

viated from its scheduled flight path, unable to slow itself down at the rate required to make a safe landing. Moments later, when it was barely 335 metres above the Moon's surface, it also lost contact with the ground station.

At that instant, Vikram was travelling at a speed of more than 200 km per hour.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has so far refused to say anything about Vikram.

The Orbiter makes several

ram's eventual fate. A few days after the failed landing in the early hours of September 7, ISRO had said the Orbiter module of Chandrayaan-2 mission, which is functioning normally, had spotted Vikram and taken thermal images of the spacecraft. However, ISRO has neither released the thermal images nor explained why normal optical images could not be taken, either at that time or later.

The Orbiter makes several

revolutions of the Moon in a single day.

The instruments on Vikram, and the embedded rover, Pragyaan, were designed to function only for 14 days after the scheduled touchdown on September 7. After that, a lunar night, equivalent of 14 days on Earth, descended on the Moon, during which temperatures dip to as low as minus 200 degrees Celsius in the area where Vikram is supposed to have landed.

Electronics on the instruments were not designed to withstand such low temperatures.

The LRO statement said when the spacecraft flew over the area on September 17, it was already dusk on the Moon, and it was possible that Vikram could be hiding behind the shadows.

"We note that it was dusk when the landing area was illuminated and thus large shadows covered much of the terrain, perhaps the Vikram lander is hiding in a shadow. The lighting will be favourable when LRO passes over the site in October and LROC will attempt to image the lander at that time," the statement said.

The Orbiter makes several

EXPLAINED  
All quiet on ISRO front

More than 20 days after the failed landing, it is unlikely that ISRO does not know about the fate of the Vikram lander or its current state. ISRO has said a committee was examining data to reach a conclusion. A similar committee had been formed after the aborted launch of Chandrayaan-2 on July 15, as is done after every such incident.

ISRO has still not officially said what problem had been found during the time of launch.

The matter came to light recently in Indore, where an engineer with Indore Municipal Corporation approached the police with a complaint that he was being blackmailed with a sex slip.

Sharma, who is attending a conference organised by the Kerala government at Thiruvananthapuram, told *The Indian Express* that he got to know about the notice and the DGP's statement – given to a local newspaper – on Thursday.

He said he was shocked to learn that the news clippings had been deliberately circulated in police headquarters and on social media to tarnish his image.

tool to shape public discussions and spread propaganda online, while simultaneously surveilling, censoring, and restricting digital public spaces," the report says.

In India, it found the use of disinformation and media manipulation, data-driven strategies, amplifying content by flooding hashtags, and troll armies that harass dissidents or journalists online. The only technique that the researchers did not find in India that was present in other countries was mass-reporting of content or accounts.

The report found that in India, bot-led automated manipulation as well as human-led manipulation spread propaganda for a

28 in the year before.

The methodology involved news reporting analysis, a secondary literature review of public archives and scientific reports, drafting country case studies, and expert consultations.

On a platform-wise breakdown of the campaigns, India appeared on Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter but not on YouTube and Instagram. Even with a growth of these activities on WhatsApp, Instagram and YouTube, the report found that Facebook still firmly remained the platform with the most manipulation activity.

## FACEBOOK TOP PLATFORM WITH MOST MANIPULATION ACTIVITY, FINDS OXFORD PROJECT

## India, Pak among 7 nations with state actors active online for propaganda: study

KARISHMA MEHROTRA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

instances of "cyber troops" in India, and private contractors came out to be the most active "cyber troops" in the country. These troops are "government or political party actors tasked with manipulating public opinion online", according to the report, and only Malaysia, Philippines, the UAE, and the US had as many or more instances as India. The report labelled India as "medium capacity" for "cyber troops". It stated, "Multiple teams ranging in size from 50-300 people. Multiple contracts and advertising expenditures valued at over 1.4M US."

The report found at least seven

Other countries in the category are Brazil, Pakistan, and the UK.

Over three years, the researchers examined 70 countries in which these operations do three things: suppress fundamental human rights, discredit political opposition, and drown out political dissent.

In India, cyber troop activity was found in two instances by a political party or politicians, three or more instances by a private contractor, on one instance by a civil society organisation, and one by citizens and influencers.

In the first big crackdown on

fake accounts for "inauthentic behaviour" in the run-up to Lok Sabha polls in April, Facebook removed more than 700 pages, groups and accounts from India. Those taken down include accounts associated with the Congress IT cell and Silver Touch Technologies, a company that has worked for the government and the BJP. They were taken down for attempts to deceive users of their identities, according to the company.

The report found that in India, bot-led automated manipulation as well as human-led manipulation spread propaganda for a

party, attacked its political opposition, and spread polarising messaging designed to drive divisions.

India, it found the use of disinformation and media manipulation, data-driven strategies, amplifying content by flooding hashtags, and troll armies that harass dissidents or journalists online. The only technique that the researchers did not find in India that was present in other countries was mass-reporting of content or accounts.

The co-option of social media technologies provides authoritarian regimes with a powerful

## DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS CASE

## Virus of corruption has engulfed entire fabric of society, says court while sentencing bureaucrat

ANAND MOHAN J

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

SENTENCING THE former Commissioner of Customs and Central Excise, Cochin, and his wife to five years in prison in a disproportionate assets case on Friday, a Delhi court said, "the virus of corruption has engulfed the entire fabric of our society".

Special Judge Virender Bhat made the remarks while sentencing Vijay Kumar Puri and his wife, Amita Puri. The judge also imposed a fine of Rs 42 lakh on the couple.

Puri was accused by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of accumulating wealth to the tune of over Rs 42 lakh from June 1998 to 2002, when he held several high profile posts in the customs and excise department. His wife was accused of assisting him in parking these assets in bank accounts and procuring forged receipts from a jewellery store to cover up the illegal gains.

While deciding on the sentence, the judge said that he was reminded of Kautilya's philosophy on sentencing: "whoever imposes severe punishment becomes repulsive to people while he who awards mild punishment becomes contemptible. The ruler just with the rod is honoured. When deserved punishment is given, it endows the subject with spiritual good, material well-being and pleasure of the senses."

The judge said the philosophy is "woven into our statute and into our jurisprudence and it is the duty of the courts to bear this in mind".

During the hearing, the CBI counsel, Neetu Singh, submitted to the court that the property gained by the couple should be confiscated. Puri's counsel submitted that there was

evidence of misuse of office and prayed for leniency.

"It cannot be disputed that the virus of corruption has engulfed the entire fabric of our society. It has become a major obstacle in the growth and development of our nation. In a democratic system, when the public offices and public institutions are misused for private advantage, they lose their legitimacy... Courts also need to play a vital role in such efforts by dealing sternly with persons found to have indulged in corrupt practices, so that a strong signal is sent to society at large, which would deter other public servants from indulging in corrupt deals," the judge said.

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

## TENDER NOTICE

(through e-tendering)

S. N.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (in Rs.)	Tender Inviting officer address	Tender Documents Fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money to be deposited (in Rs.)	Date & time for closed of tender	Website particular & notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen etc.
1	Provision of interlocking Non-Interlocked L-Xing having TVU> 50,000 for up-gradation of LC No. 5,70,15 on DSA-TP2 section & LC No. 4C on TPZ-KJGY section of DLI Division.	Rs. 8257033.72/-	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/II, Northern Railway, 2nd Floor, Annex-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055.	Rs. 5,900/- Only.	Rs. 1,65,200.00/- Only	Tender Uploaded date & time 11.10.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.	See the N.Rly. website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055.

Tender No. 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/1307 Dated: 27.09.2019

3135/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH STAFF SELECTION BOARD,  
C SECTOR, CIRCUIT HOUSE, ITANAGAR

File No. APSSB/63/2019 Vacancy Notice Dated Itanagar the 27th Sep' 19 ADVERTISEMENT NO. 04/2019

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:-** Only online applications will be accepted. Application received through any other mode shall be summarily rejected.

Online applications are invited for recruitment to the following post under Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board, Itanagar purely on contract basis, initially for a period of 1 (one) year.

The opening date and closing date of application of vacancies are as under:

**Opening Date of Application:-** 28.09.2019

**Closing Date of Application:-** 29.10.2019

The details of the vacancies, wages, eligibility criteria are as under:

Sl. No.	Post Code	Name of Post	Name of Deptt/ Office	Type/ Classification of Post	Wages (per month)	Vacancies
1	17/19	Programmer	Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board	Contractual	₹ 1,25,000	1 (Unreserved)
2	18/19	Assistant Programmer	Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board	Contractual	₹ 75,000	2 (Unreserved)

Candidate must apply online through the website [www.apssb.in](http://www.apssb.in). The closing date for the submission of online application is 29.10.19 till 11:59 PM after which the link will be disabled. Application received through any other mode would not be accepted and will be summarily rejected.

The details regarding name of the posts(s), post code, number of vacancies, educational qualifications, experience required, wages, age limit etc are as under:-

Post Code:-	17/19	Name of Post:-	Programmer
Vacancy	Unreserved-1		
Academic Qualification	B. Tech (Computer Science or MCA with minimum 5 years experience in Software Development)		
Essential Technical / Skill Requirement	Proficiency in .NET, SQL Software, Database Development and maintenance and JAVA, Linux, Cybersecurity.		
Wages	₹ 1,25,000		
Age Limit	upto 45 years		

Post Code:-	18/19	Name of Post:-	Assistant Programmer
Vacancy	Unreserved-2		
Academic Qualification	B. Tech (Computer Science or MCA with minimum 2 years experience in Software Development)		
Essential Technical / Skill Requirement	Proficiency in .NET, SQL Software, Database Development and maintenance, JAVA, Linux, Cybersecurity.		
Wages	₹ 75,000		
Age Limit	upto 40 years		

**NOTE:-** The candidate must apply **Online only**. No other mode of application shall be accepted.

**1. APPLICATION FEES AND MODE OF PAYMENT:**

i) ₹100 for all candidates (to be paid online only).

ii) Fee once paid will not be refunded under any circumstances.

**2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

i) The candidate must be a citizen of India.

ii) The educational qualification, age, experience, etc as stipulated in the advertisement shall be determined as on the closing date of submission of application.

**3. MODE OF RECRUITMENT**

The mode of recruitment shall be intimated to the candidates on a later date through the official website [www.apssb.in](http://www.apssb.in)

**4. DOCUMENTS/INFORMATION TO BE ATTACHED / UPLOADED**

i) Scanned signature of the candidate on white paper with BLACK ink pen (20.60 kb in jpg format).

ii) Latest/recent passport size photo (40-100 kb in jpg format)

iii) LTI (Left thumb impression) & RTI (Right thumb impression) (20-60 kb in jpg format).

**5. GENERAL INSTRUCTION FOR CANDIDATES**

i) The Board reserves the right to reject the candidature of any ineligible candidate at any stage of recruitment.

ii) The Board reserves the right to change or make amendment in the examination scheme/mode of recruitment, if so required.

iii) The Board reserves the right to cancel or modify the advertisement or any part of it at any stage.

iv) Candidates are advised to keep track of the Board website [www.apssb.in](http://www.apssb.in) for any latest information.

Sd/-  
(S.K. Jain) IAS  
Secretary cum CoE (APSSB)  
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

DIPR/ARN-1947-49

## CONJOINED TWINS FROM ODISHA WERE SEPARATED AT AIIMS

## Balia on ventilator, doctors say flu, breathing problems

ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THREE WEEKS after conjoined twins Jagga and Balia were shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack from AIIMS in Delhi, Balia has been put on ventilator support due to respiratory discomfort coupled with influenza.

According to doctors at the hospital, the 10-month-old boy is being closely monitored.

The craniopagus twins from Milipada village of Kandhamal district returned to Odisha on September 7 and were admitted to SCB hospital. A six-member team with specialists from neurosurgery, neurology, surgery and paediatrics departments has been assigned for their treatment.

"When he was brought to the hospital, he was in a vegetative state. He had fever and frequent seizures. His condition improved later. But a few days ago, the fever returned with respiratory discomfort. Suddenly, he suffered respiratory dyspnea (shortness of breath) and was incubated immediately," said Dr Sudhanshu S Mishra, professor and HOD of Neurosurgery at SCB Medical College.

The twins were admitted to AIIMS on July 13, 2017. The first phase of the surgery to separate them was performed on August 28, when doctors created a vein



Jagga looks at Balia as he sleeps. They were shifted to SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack from AIIMS on September 6. Abhinav Saha/Express File

nous bypass to separate veins that return blood to the heart from the brain. The final separation was done on October 25 in a 20-hour operation. During the surgery, Jagga suffered a cardiac arrest but was revived.

Dr Mishra said, "He (Balia) is better than yesterday. We are trying our best to keep him fine. We are not sure we will succeed but we will keep trying. This is one of the rarest cases."

Doctors at AIIMS said they will hold a video-conference with doctors in Cuttack to understand the situation.

**GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI, IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT**  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CD-III, L.M BUND OFFICE COMPLEX, SHASTRI NAGAR, DELHI-110031

## NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. III, AFC, Delhi invites on behalf of the President of India, online tender for the following works.

1. **NIT No: EE/CD-III/NIT/15/2019-20 HOA: TADAB FUND**

**Name of work :-** Improvement of side drain and C.C. pavement for Mandawali main Road towards Railway Colony in Mandawali Fazalpur in AC-58 Laxmi Nagar Assembly Constituency. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 1,28,11,045/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 2,56,221/- **Period of completion:** 150 Days. **Last date & time of submission of tender:** upto 3:00 p.m. on 07.10.2019. **Tender I.D. 2019\_IFC\_180766\_1.** Other details can be seen at website <http://delhigovt.nic.in/tender>

Executive Engineer, CD-III  
DIP/Shabdhar/0743/19-20

Sd/-

Executive Engineer, CD-III

DIP/Shabdhar/0743/19-20

For PCMM

RNE

Executive Engineer, CD-III

DIP/Shabdhar/0743/19-20

Executive Engineer, CD-III

## Classifieds

## PERSONAL

It is for general information that I, AMIT KUMAR S/O RAJESH KUMAR, Residing at H.No-238, Tajpur Kalan, North West Delhi-110036, inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as SWAMI AMIT KUMAR in my Driving Licence No: DL1100120211169. The actual name of mine is AMIT KUMAR, which may be amended accordingly.

0040514178-7

I, Swati Shweta W/o Sh. Bhaskar Verma, R/o D-72, 79, West Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi-110023 that inadvertently in 10th-Class Marksheet of my son, Namely Kuvan Verma aged about 16-Years my name has been wrongly written as Swati Shweta Verma instead of Swati Shweta. 0040514180-1

I, Manoj Kumar S/o Sh. Gopal Lal Wahi R/o 5/44 3rd floor Old Rajender Nagar New Delhi-110060 have changed my name to Manoj Kumar Wahi for all purposes. 0040514191-2

I, Darashana Kumar W/o Late Shri Dilbagh Singh, R/o 2000, Katra Lachhu Singh, Chandni Chowk, H.C.Sen Marg, Delhi-110006, have changed my name from Darshana Kaur to Darashana Kaur for all future Purposes. 0040514180-2

I, Baljinder Kaur Sandhu D/o Sh. Jaspal Singh Sandhu R/o 2443, First Floor, Hudson Line, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-9, have changed to my name Baljinder Kaur for all Purposes. 0040514180-3

I, hitherto known as HIRALAL SAHU alias HALA RAM S/O SH. MAKHANLAL SAHU, residing at Permanent Add- H.No.51, Gram-Murta, Bemeta, Nawagarh, Chhattisgarh-491337, Present Add- D-73, West Vinod Nagar, Mandawali, Delhi-110092 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as HIRALAL SAHU. 0040514103-1

I, ZOHAAN Ponty Singh Chaddha S/o Manpreet Singh Chaddha R/o Farm No. 21, Oak Drive, DLF Chattarpur, Delhi have changed my name from Zohaan Ponty Singh Chaddha to Zohaan Ponty Singh Chaddha for all future purposes. 0040514095-5

I, Vikash Sharma S/o Sh. Devender Kumar Sharma R/o H.No.65/2, Shyam Enclave Colony, VPO Sehatpur, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my minor son's name from Hridyansh Sharma to Hridyansh Sharma for all future purposes. 0040514092-1

I, Vibhu @ Vibhu Tripathi S/o Sh. Vivek Tripathi R/o 205, Sector-17-A, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 have changed my name to Shreesh Tripathi for all purposes. 0040514096-7

I, Venkatraman Sundaram S/O, Sundaram R/o Block A, 1 H.No-29 Second Floor Southcity 2 Sohna Road have changed my name to Venkatraman S/lyer for all purposes. 0040514178-8

I, Monika Chatterjee W/o Sahrat Chatterjee R/o-57/17 3rd-Floor Back-Side Ashok Nagar Delhi-110018 Have Changed My Name To Monika Hans. 0040514196-4

I, Vasudev Kaushal S/o G.D. Kaushal R/o H.No.301, Plot No.154, Opp-Tehsil New Gandhi Nagar, Ghaziabad have my name to Vasudeo Kaushal. 0040514191-6

I, Usha Rani Grover W/o Sh. Sanjay Mutreja R/o-T-1897 1st-Floor Upper Ridge-Rd., Jhendewal, Karolbagh, N.Delhi-110005, have changed my name to Sakshi Mutreja, for all purposes. 0040514178-1

I, Tulsirani W/o Kapil Bhandari R/o-L 28 Pratap Nagar, Andha Mugal Near Paratap Nagar, Metro Station, Delhi, have changed my name to Pooja Bhandari permanently. 0040514162-2

I, Suneeta Verma W/o Jatin Bakshi R/o D-406, Indera-Park, Najafgarh, New Delhi-43, Have Changed My Name to Mansi Bakshi. 0040514196-7

I, Sumit Mehta F/o Saro Mehta R/o Flat No U4A, Tower 6, Civitech Florencia, Ramprastha Greens, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, do hereby informs that I have changed my daughter's name from Sara to Sara Mehta for all purposes. 0040514147-1

I, Sudha D/o Nirmal Kumar Singh R/o RZD-391, Gali No-14A/7, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sudha Singh. 0040514171-4

I, Sitaraman Sankara Narayanan R/o 29C, Pocket-1, Mayur Vihar Phase-1 Delhi-110091 Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Suchendra Bharadwaj/S Suchendra Bharadwaj aged 17 years to Sankara Suchendra Bharadwaj 007667244-1

I, Shyam Kanhya S/o Sh.Ram Niwas Sharma R/o C-3/62/63, DDA Colony, New Kondli, Delhi-110096 is also known as Shyam Kanhya, S.K.Das & S.K. Sharma. All names are of one & the same person. 0040514096-4

I, Shyam Kanhya S/o Sh.Ram Niwas Sharma R/o C-3/62/63, DDA Colony, New Kondli, Delhi-110096 declares that my minor daughter Shreyashi is also known as Shreyashi Das. Both names are of one & the same person. 0040514096-2

I, Satyapal Bhati S/o Hari Singh Bhati R/o A-903, Homes 121, Sector-121, Noida, have changed my name to Satyapal Singh Bhati. 0040514171-2

I, Saroj Devi W/o Hari Deo Rai H.No-5 A-Block Gali No-1 Roshan-Nagar Agawpara-Village Aamaranagar-Faridabad Haryana-121003. Have Changed My Name To Ayaan. 0040514185-1

I, Sanjeev S/o Brij Pal Singh R/o A3/605, Purvanchal Silvercity 2, Sec.Pi2, Greater Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201310, have changed my name to Sanjeev Chaudhary for all purposes. 0040514154-1

I, Mohammed Naseer-Uddin S/o Salihuddin, Whose correct Date of Birth is 05/09/1979 residing at H.No.940, Gali Mochiyani Haveli Azam Khan Chithi Qabul Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohammad Naseer for all purposes. 0040514154-1

I, Maya Devi W/o Mohan Singh H.No-38, Meera Kunji, Nilothi-Extn., N.Delhi Have Changed my Name to Maya Kaur. 0040514191-7

I, Sangeeta Gupta D/o Shankar Lal, R/o 40/1, First Floor, Guru Angad Nagar Extn., Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-92, have changed my name from Sangeeta to Sangeeta Gupta For All Purposes. 0040514123-1

I, Sandeep Kaur W/o Manjinder Singh R/o H.No.32-A, U/F, Floor, Vikaspuri, Chander-Vihar, Delhi-110041 have changed my name to Sarjeet Kaur. 0040514178-5

I, Saddam Husen S/o Shahid Mohammad R/o H.No.278, Rudarpur, PS-Hathras Junction, Hathras, UP have changed my name to Saddam Husain. 0040514191-4

I, SANAMDEEP Chaddha W/o Manpreet Singh Chaddha R/o Farm No. 21, Oak Drive, DLF Chattarpur, Delhi have changed my name from Sanamdeep Chaddha to Sanamdeep Chaddha for all future purposes. 0040514095-1

I, LAXMAN S/o Maan Singh R/o 18/67 kalyanpur Delhi-110091 infrom that name of my has been wrongly mentioned as Laxman singh in my school service record and P.F. Record. The correct name is Laxman both are same person Respectively which may be amended accordingly. 0040514191-3

I, Rajkumar Ramesh W/o Ramesh Kumar R/o-H.No.1678,Dabua Colony, Faridabad,Haryana have changed my name to Raj Kumar for all purposes Vide-affidavit no. IN-DL-1036057264011R. 040514227-4

I, Rais Ahmed S/o Kallu Qureshi R/o-C-119 Gali No.12/5, Chauhan Banger, New Seelampur Delhi-110053, have changed my name to Haji Rais Ahmad for all purposes. 0040514227-6

I, Rama Singh Manral W/o,Narendra Singh Manral R/o-Flat No-002, U.G.F., Sai-Home Sector-10, Noida,UP have changed my name to Rama Manral. 0040514176-6

I, Rajkumar Ramesh W/o Ramesh Kumar R/o-H.No.1678,Dabua Colony, Faridabad,Haryana have changed my name to Raj Kumar for all purposes Vide-affidavit no. IN-DL-1036057264011R. 040514227-4

I, Hemant Pandey S/o Sh. K.P.Pandey R/o-593A, Second-Floor, Brahman-Wada, Mehrauli, Gurgaon New Delhi-110030 have changed my name from Hemant Kumar to Hemant Pandey,for all purposes. 0040514191-5

I, Hemant Pandey S/o Sh. K.P.Pandey R/o-593A, Second-Floor, Brahman-Wada, Mehrauli, Gurgaon New Delhi-110030 have changed my name from Hemant Kumar to Hemant Pandey,for all purposes. 0040514191-5

I, Raashi Kakkar D/o Gurmeet Singh R/o North West Moti Bagh Type -III Qtr No-46 New Delhi-21 changed my name to Rashi Dogra for all purposes. 0040514196-1

I, Pritpal Jit Panesar S/o Manmohan Singh R/o 4/27, First Floor, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Pritpal Jit Singh for all purposes. 0040514121-2

I, Ponn Swamy Resident New T-13/14 Shukkar Bazar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my minor son's name Toshit to Toshit Ponn Swamy. 0040514174-1

I, Pawan Kumar S/o Shri Ramesh Chander Mittal R/o B-5/45, Sector-5, Rohini Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Pawan Kumar Mittal. 0040514227-2

I, Pankaj Pruthi R/o 81, Vaishali, New Palam Road, Delhi, have changed my minor daughter's name from Chaarvi Parthi to Chaarvi Pruthi for all purposes. 0040514177-1

I, Pankaj Kumar S/o Pawan Singh R/o 60D/E-4, Udyog Vihar, Sector-82, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201304 have changed my minor daughter's name from Gunn to Drishya Agrohi for all purposes. 0040514237-2

I, Nirmal W/o Shri. Tej Prakash Singh R/o H.No.-335, First Floor, Dhakha Johar, New Kondli, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Nirmal Walia for all future purposes. 0040514171-5

I, Sudha D/o Nirmal Kumar Singh R/o RZD-391, Gali No-14A/7, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sudha Singh. 0040514196-7

I, Sumit Mehta F/o Saro Mehta R/o Flat No U4A, Tower 6, Civitech Florencia, Ramprastha Greens, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, do hereby informs that I have changed my daughter's name from Sara to Sara Mehta for all purposes. 0040514147-1

I, Sudha D/o Nirmal Kumar Singh R/o RZD-391, Gali No-14A/7, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sudha Singh. 0040514196-7

I, Nirmal W/o Shri. Tej Prakash Singh R/o H.No.-335, First Floor, Dhakha Johar, New Kondli, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Nirmal Walia for all future purposes. 0040514171-5

I, Sudha D/o Nirmal Kumar Singh R/o RZD-391, Gali No-14A/7, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sudha Singh. 0040514196-7

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I, Sudha D/o Nirmal Kumar Singh R/o RZD-391, Gali No-14A/7, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sud



## THE NRC SPECTRE

BJP leaders are not serving any national interest by spreading panic that NRC will soon be implemented across India

THE PANIC SPARKED off by the spectre of NRC (National Register of Citizens) should serve a warning to politicians who have been talking about its implementation across the country soon. Across West Bengal, queues are lengthening outside government offices with people seeking the documents necessary for inclusion in the NRC; there have even been reports of suicide, reportedly due to "panic" and "depression" for want of papers. With the Assam experience fresh, where nearly 19 lakh people are out of the NRC and uncertain about their future, people in West Bengal are taking no chances. No assurance from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee seems to convince a worried population, many of them having crossed over from East Pakistan and Bangladesh during Partition in 1947 and after the 1971 war, that the state has no intention to introduce an NRC.

Public anxiety is not surprising since senior functionaries of the BJP have been insisting that the NRC is a given. BJP President and Union Home Minister Amit Shah recently said: "The people of the country took a decision in 2019. We are here to bring the NRC, and those who are excluded will be sent out of the country after due legal process." Ahead of the general election, Shah infamously referred to illegal migrants as termites and said a BJP government would pick up infiltrators and throw them into the sea. The BJP functionaries have also introduced a communal angle in the citizenship debate by insisting that Hindus excluded from the NRC would be protected. Earlier this week, the BJP general secretary in charge of the party in West Bengal, Kailash Vijayvargiya said: "As national general secretary of BJP, I want to assure all of you that NRC will be implemented but not a single Hindu will have to leave the country. Each and every Hindu will be given citizenship." RSS supremo Mohan Bhagwat too has reportedly said that the RSS will stand by Hindus not listed in the final NRC in Assam and that Hindus anywhere in India need not worry. The Delhi BJP has turned shrill in its demand for NRC, following in the footsteps of the chief ministers of Haryana and UP.

The NRC was proposed for Assam in 1951 in the backdrop of the extraordinary political history of the region before Partition: The national in NRC does not indicate any national intent. And the idea of citizenship envisaged by the Indian Constitution does not discriminate on the basis of religion. The founding fathers of the republic also did not envisage that this country should close its borders to people fleeing political and economic turmoil. The BJP leadership is surely not serving national interest by erasing this history and whipping up anxieties over questions that can cause deep cleavages in the society.

## ON THE ROAD

Thomas Cook went under, but the old school travel agency model might yet survive

WHEN A 178-YEAR-OLD travel agency says, as it did in its slogan, "Don't just book it, Thomas Cook it", a particular confidence shines through. That consumer faith can be transposed onto an entity which understands your travel interests with a higher degree of perception. That was before the World Wide Web disrupted the tourism landscape. Thomas Cook did its best over the years. But the old travel firm, Thomas Cook UK, which catered to approximately 19 million travellers a year across 16 countries, entered compulsory liquidation earlier this week. The company reportedly was \$2.1 billion in debt.

Factors such as Brexit have been stated as reasons compounding the firm's financial woes. However, the inability of the firm to adapt digitally is being highlighted as an example of how brick-and-mortar travel stores may lose relevance. Thomas Cook had upwards of 600 physical outlets – called "high street" stores in the UK for their prime location. That's a staggering amount of overhead expenditure, when a digital presence is almost free in comparison. The firm's overall approach stood at odds with an industry where Online Travel Agents (OTAs) and User-Generated Content (UGC) are crucial information sources. A 2018 World Bank report notes how, in 2017, TripAdvisor bookings alone made up US\$546 billion of global tourism spend. Online travel reviews on TripAdvisor, the report noted, "have grown to 660 million in 2018... A study by OTA Expedia and Comscore... found that in 2016, US travelers alone spent 8.7 billion minutes consuming digital travel content, a 41 per cent increase year-on-year."

Does this mean curtains for the travel agent as we have known? Yes and no. While high rentals and cost overheads make physical presence non-competitive vis a vis online portals, the information overload online and the yearning for an assuring human hand to sift through the data and make it simple may help trusted firms stay in business. For instance, a 2017-18 study by MMGY Global said 33 per cent of millennials in the US would prefer to hire travel agents in the next two years. Breaking down a 2019 industry report, TTG Asia, a leading Asia-Pacific travel-trade group, states how 42 per cent of travellers find the lack of human interaction frustrating, up from 38 per cent in 2018. At an international travel forum in May, Deloitte's lead partner travel, Alistair Pritchard, reportedly said a combination of factors, especially information overload, is going to ensure "the return of the travel expert". If not Thomas Cook, someone else might continue to Cook it.

## EIGENFACE CHIC

In the battle for privacy, war paint is proving to be the most efficient means of confusing facial recognition

SPRIVACY CONCERN grow over the rampant use of facial recognition technology on the street, and in shops and private spaces, the anti-face movement is catching up. It is a technology problem, and the solution was expected to be technological. Who would have expected the perfect hack to arrive in the guise of fashion? This week, as London Fashion Week closed, the Dazzle Club took a walk in London's King's Cross, wearing war paint that anonymised them in plain sight in the heart of the world's most camera-dense city.

The name is obviously a grateful nod to the technologist and artist Adam Harvey's CV Dazzle project, which exploits weaknesses in the OpenCV library for real-time computer vision. Facial recognition depends on Eigenfaces, the set of vector maps used in facial recognition, which are sensitive to factors like the distance between the eyes, and their relation to the corners of the mouth. With present technology, covering part of the face or wearing shades does not help. OpenCV simply works with what it can see, and ignores your pathetic attempts at concealment.

But weird makeup and hairdos which distort the apparent proportions of the face work. CV Dazzle is a set of blazes, patterns and cosmetics worn on the face to confuse cameras. But designers aren't satisfied with just thwarting facial recognition. They are culture jamming, too, choking the system with junk data and noise. The raddest strategy is clothes printed with the faces of celebrities, which divert the cameras from your face. They see Barack Obama, Janis Joplin, Che Guevara, even Elvis himself. They see everyone except you. As cameras become pervasive in India, we need local flavour. The nation where political workers wear the face of their leader also deserve camouflage gear. We'll take the Netaji T-shirt, thank you.



V S SESHADRI

## Look east, act fast

India should join RCEP, but negotiate a better deal to safeguard its interests

stay out? First, an initiative like RCEP which offers us the opportunity to economically integrate more closely with this dynamic region happens rarely and may not wait for us indefinitely. Even if quickly concluded, legal scrubbing and ratifications may lead to RCEP not being operational before 2021.

Second, the rest of RCEP (barring perhaps CLM countries) is relatively more integrated than India. Only through such closer association can mechanisms like mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) in professional services or equivalence of product standards can be developed.

Third, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal recently said that on the export front, the government is willing to take bold decisions and a trillion dollar of exports in the next five years is eminently doable. He added that this was essential if the target of a \$5-trillion economy has to be reached by 2025. If so, India needs easier market access that can be provided by FTAs like RCEP.

Fourth, when a country signs a major FTA, more suitors line up not wanting to disadvantage their exports. If India can use this FTA dynamics to get candidates like the EU to show more flexibility, it should be welcome.

Fifth, domestic export capacities alone will not be adequate even as they require scaling up to double our exports. Foreign investments, including in value chains will be needed and those relocating from China may show interest. Investors will be more persuaded if India has a wider FTA portfolio. World trade is increasingly routed through preferential arrangements.

Foreign investors also look for ease of doing business and a predictable and stable environment. Otherwise, they will go and invest in other RCEP countries and target their exports to India. The recent drastic reduction effected in corporate tax rates, particularly for new manufacturing units, is a very timely and huge step. These need to be supplemented with other domestic reforms, particularly to facilitate labour intensive manufacturing. We should not be looking to alight from the RCEP bus, but to negotiate hard for a comfortable seat.

The writer is former Indian ambassador to Myanmar

THE RCEP NEGOTIATIONS have entered the final phase. A ministerial level meeting earlier this month in Bangkok, following similar consultations last month in Beijing and a trade negotiating committee meeting currently in progress in Vietnam, all signal a quickening pace. Within India too, intensive stakeholder consultations have taken place. A track 1.5 consultation among RCEP countries held in Delhi on September 13 also saw many of the RCEP lead negotiators and their back-up think tanks interacting with their counterparts in India and industry bodies. Will the deal be finalised in time for the ASEAN summit meetings in Bangkok in November? And will India remain a part of it? Mixed signals continue.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal recently said that while the government would strive to protect the interests of a majority of industries, the overall discussion cannot be hijacked by one or two sectors. This is widely seen as declaring an intention to remain in RCEP and make it work for us. RCEP negotiations have been underway since 2013. Its significance for regional integration, even if most of the participating countries are already connected by bilateral FTAs, cannot be understated. At a time when global trade and the global economy are facing huge uncertainties, it could be a booster shot.

But will it work for India? That depends on what has already been negotiated and what can be achieved in the remaining time. But some essential points merit mention. And since India will bring significant additionality to RCEP, it should negotiate hard.

On the export front, India's export capacities and competitiveness in relation to the RCEP region are presently limited. Where they exist, duty reductions by partners require front-loading. This includes textiles, gems and jewellery, pharma, autos, some engineering and chemical items and certain agricultural and marine products. Export consolidation in them can take place in RCEP markets not covered by FTAs now. Even with existing FTA partners, if we can improve market access with deeper concessions such as in cotton yarn with Korea or on easier rules of origin with Japan for shrimps or for cut and polished diamonds, these would help.

More important will be the easing of non-

tariff barriers. Side letters assuring fast track consideration for evaluation and access for our generics, already having approvals from USFDA or EMA, on the lines we have with Singapore, would be extremely important. While our exports of pharma items worldwide were \$13.28 billion in 2018-19, bulk of it were to advanced markets like the US (39 per cent) and EU (13 per cent). Exports to RCEP countries like Korea (0.1 per cent), Japan (0.4 per cent) and China (0.4 per cent) were paltry. If RCEP is promoting regional integration, these should rapidly rise.

It would be critical to seek time bound approvals on safety for auto and other engineering items and certification of farm products on sanitary and phytosanitary grounds without delay. Here again, the wide divergence between acceptance of our products in other advanced markets and East Asia stands out. It is also essential to have an institutional consultative process on NTBs. An aggrieved member should be able to get NTB issues faced by it in any market peer reviewed and have the opportunity to persuade the RCEP collegium.

On imports, there is an unease about RCEP among several segments of Indian industry. They need time to face more intense competition. China has market dominance in several sectors even without an FTA. Tariff phase-outs for imports, therefore, need to be longer than in the earlier FTAs and be extended to 15-20 years. Back-loading reductions would also be needed in certain areas. Strategic sectors like steel or non-ferrous metals, where RCEP countries like China have significant overcapacity, need to be carefully handled. Agriculture, sheltered in earlier FTAs, needs calibrated opening through use of tariff rate quotas on sensitive products as several RCEP countries are strong agricultural exporters.

A reassuring safeguard mechanism in RCEP against import surges will be crucial. To be effective, it would be necessary to have tailored safeguard measures: one for agriculture, second for strategic sectors like ferrous and non-ferrous products having overcapacity and third for the remaining. Several FTAs globally do have separate safeguards including for autos and farm items.

It can be asked, why enter RCEP with so many caveats? If we are not ready, why not



KHALED AHMED

## THE MORBIDITY OF JIHAD

Pakistan has compromised its internal sovereignty by supporting non-state actors

TARIQ RAHMAN, DEAN at the School of the Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, has written the most comprehensive book on jihad, the religious war of Islam, exercising the minds of Muslims and non-Muslims alike. *Interpretations of jihad in South Asia: An Intellectual History* (OUP) begins with the erstwhile but now ignored thinkers like Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Maulvi Chiragh Ali who thought jihad was defensive war and not conquest to collect more jizya (poll-tax on non-Muslims).

This book looks at the lack of scholarly consensus on what jihad means, especially in the hands of radical organisations such as al Qaeda and the Islamic State. It takes 323 pages of the most absorbing scholarship to understand the radical jihad, springing mostly from the authority of Ibn Taymiyya (1262-1328) and culminating in the disputed hadith about Ghazwa-e-Hind, legalising and prompting an uprising against India in Kashmir.

The book rivets attention on the details of the phenomenon of extremism among Muslims that has ended up in jihad, killing more Muslims than non-believers. Pakistan has been the testing ground of theories of jihad that, some say, have been ordained in the Quran, which also lays down qital (killing) as an injunction. Pakistan has been the victim of the covert war which was supposed to be

Any discussion of law and order in Pakistan in the past has run headlong into the state's policy of (proxy) jihad. Because jihad was fought with mercenary troops, there was a sharing of the sovereignty of the state with jihadi leaders. There is resistance among politicians to the post-9/11 perceived policy of giving up jihad because the world increasingly equates jihad to terrorism through the FATF. There is apparently no realisation that jihad militates against governance above all.

Any discussion of law and order in Pakistan in the past has run headlong into the state's policy of (proxy) jihad. Because jihad was fought with mercenary troops, there was a sharing of the sovereignty of the state with jihadi leaders. There is resistance among politicians to the post-9/11 perceived policy of giving up jihad because the world increasingly equates jihad to terrorism through the FATF. There is apparently no realisation that jihad militates against governance above all.

Rahman wonders at the book's conclusion: "This study has concerned itself only with ideas about jihad. Perhaps the crucial question, not addressed here, is whether people are really influenced by these ideas? In short, is it because there are radical interpretations in circulation on the internet, among role models of the peer group, among friends and relatives, that people get radicalised? Or is it that they join for other reasons such as poverty, lack of education, mental illness, sexual frustration, or money?"

Rahman takes note of Suhail Abbas, a Pakistani psychologist who examined 517 men in jail "for having attempted to go to Afghanistan to fight US troops". His conclusion was that all "jihadis" suffered from "psychological morbidity".

The writer is consulting editor, Newsweek Pakistan



## SEPTEMBER 28, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

## ECONOMIC OFFENCES

THE CHIEF MINISTERS' conference was divided on the question of the Central and state governments assuming fresh legislative powers to deal with economic offences, as suggested by Prime Minister Charan Singh, in his inaugural speech. Although some states like UP and Karnataka felt that a fresh legislation was called for, most others either opposed the suggestion or were reticent about it. It is possible that having sounded the chief ministers on the need for fresh legislation, the Centre might consider it as a fulfilment of its obligation and go ahead with its proposal for some kind of preventive detention law to curb economic offences.

## ONE-DAY POLLS

THE CONSENSUS AT the chief ministers' conference in New Delhi was against a one-day poll for the Lok Sabha election. The question will, however, be further discussed by the chief election commissioner at a meeting with the state chief secretaries before he takes a final decision. While the CEC has been insisting that polling be completed across the country in a single day, a large number of state governments have felt that it would not be possible for them to make arrangements for a one-day poll. The reason for this is the constraints of resources, particularly of law and order enforcement machinery.

## HINDU SUCCESSION ACT

SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS WOMEN and lawyers have come out strongly against the Haryana Bill amending the Hindu Succession Act to debar Hindu women from inheriting property from their parents. The Bill which was passed unanimously by the Assembly, however, has to go to the President for his assent. Lawyers, particularly women lawyers, when questioned on the subject were unanimous in terming the bill as a "retrogressive step," which amounted to discriminating on the basis of sex. Kapila Hingorani, a Supreme Court lawyer, pointed out that the most terrible repercussion of the Bill would be to strengthen the custom of dowry.

# The making of history

Modi Econ 2.0 has started with a big bang – the largest corporate tax cut in world history for new manufacturing firms. Surely this is just the beginning



**NO PROOF REQUIRED**  
BY SURJIT S. BHALLA  
AND KARAN BHASIN

ON SEPTEMBER 20, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced one of the largest corporate tax cuts in world history. For all companies that don't avail exemptions or incentives, the new corporate tax rate was set at 22 per cent while for new manufacturing firms established after October 1 (and who start production before 2023), the corporate tax rate was set at 15 per cent. The prevailing corporate rate – 30 per cent. The relevant tax rate is with surcharges and cesses – this has been reduced from 35 per cent to 25 per cent (all firms) and from 35 per cent to 17 per cent (new manufacturing firms).

Analysts, commentators and economists have looked at these large, historical, tax cuts and debated whether they will have any impact on demand or GDP growth. A dominant belief is that this is a supply-side intervention and even if it were to have an effect on demand, it will be only after a considerable lag. Some are even opining that this is neither a supply nor a demand side intervention but instead a "gift" to the corporate sector; others believe that what is needed to revive demand and GDP growth are long-term structural reforms. According to them, only structural changes that kindle animal spirits, agriculture, quality of education, improved healthcare, etc. matter for growth acceleration. (Add a structural change in weather as well).

These Godot experts believe India's time will come but only when Godot arrives – after much needed structural reforms. By definition, structural reforms mean policies that have not been in place, to date. Godot needs to answer as to how, and why, India managed to grow at 7+ per cent for more than a decade without structural change?

We believe that a large part of the recent Indian growth decline to 5 per cent is cyclical, caused by both global (trade wars) and domestic factors. A major contributor to India's growth sluggishness (and decline) are distorted domestic policies, particularly corporate tax rates (highest in the world) and real policy rates (highest in the world).

We go into details below, but we do want to make an Econ 000 point – cutting the corporate tax rates is both a supply and a demand intervention. Even the supply effect will likely not take long to materialise. On the demand side, there is the wealth effect, due to higher asset prices. Assume for a moment that the stock market rise is at least 15 per cent for the fiscal year from the close of trade on September 19 (Sensex at 36,000 and Nifty at 10,700). In one week, the stock market is up more than 8 per cent. We realise this maybe noise but the estimate of only an additional 7 per cent rise over the next six months is conservative. Each 1 per cent rise in market cap is approximately Rs 1.4 lc (lakh crore). A 15 per cent rise translates into an additional Rs 21 lc. Global estimates of wealth effect on consumption vary but a magnitude of .05 is reasonable, that is, the wealth effect can be expected to yield an additional [(.05\*21) or 1.05 lc or] Rs 1,05,000 crore of consumption. [Note that we have completely ignored the



CR Sasikumar

wealth effect emanating from the likely stabilisation, and increase, in house prices]

An important additional demand effect is via additional investment. The sceptics (Godot fans?) will say that since there is excess capacity there will be no additional investment until demand magically reappears. Of course, this argument is close to tautological and as close to "Ganga gaye to Gangadas aur jamuna gaye to jamunadas". With this view, there is no wealth effect and no investment effect and no growth effect – at whatever time we are, we are at a standstill. This logic defies logic. There is bound to be an additional effect on investment.

We will report on cross-country results at a later date, but we do expect a 2.5 percentage point rise in real investment over the next two years. This will take real investment close to 35.5 per cent of GDP or less than 1.5 percentage points away from the peak of 36.8 per cent reached in 2011Q3. Needless to say, this is additional demand, and additional GDP in the economy. And needless to add, but this investment increase is unlikely to occur if the RBI/MPC persist with the highest real rates in the world. Just like woman does not live on bread alone, investment is strongly affected by both tax rates and the cost of credit. The other policy shoe needs to fall for accie din to happen.

We can all speculate, and disagree, but there are some incontrovertible facts pertaining to FM Sitharaman's announcement of September 20. Indian (and world) history was made on that date. A reduction of 10 ppt reduction in the corporate tax rate (CTR) is only exceeded by Germany's 15.8 ppt reduction in 2001 and the US's 14 ppt reduction in 2018 (from 35 to 21 per cent). However, for new firms, the reduction of the CTR to 17 per cent (CTR of 15 per cent and surcharges, etc. of 2.2 per cent), an 18 ppt reduction, is the largest on record since 2000 (OECD database). Very likely, such a big reduction is the biggest reduction in the world, ever.

Some Indian economists have asked for a reduction in the CTR for a long, long, time. I say so with some expertise because in none of the traditional economists' pre-budget consultative meetings over the last 22 years has the argument been made to cut the CTR. The discussion, argument, has always been to raise tax rates to keep the fiscal deficit down (this for more than 99 per cent of the

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participants). Earlier this year, only two economists argued for a cut in CTR – the same two also argued for a cut in the real policy rates. The rest said don't tinker, worry about the fiscal deficit, etc.

And yes, some experts said the real policy problem pertaining to Indian GDP growth was that the exchange rate was overvalued. Note that these expert views were made at the time of the lowest real (and nominal) GDP growth in decades.

Hence, when the announcement was made on September 20, there were some who thought this was fake news! That is how much history was in the making.

A real perspective on history is provided via the OECD corporate tax database for close to 60 countries (since 2000). The data has 1,155 observations on CTR and 1,057 country-year observations on change in CTR. For countries with a population above 5 million (682 observations), there are only 161 observations of any change in the tax rate. Of these, 126 show a decline; only 34 show a decline of more than 3 ppt and only 14 countries cut taxes in any year by more than 5 per cent (Germany did it twice 15.8 ppt in 2001 and 10.6 ppt in 2008). Other countries in the club of a 10 per cent cut in CTR are France (2018), Hungary (2017) and Paraguay and Turkey (both in 2006).

India now joins this club of bold tax policy-makers – just 2 per cent of the total changes made in the 21st century. As we said earlier, while data are not easily available, this is possibly in all history, since tax increases, like death, have been a certainty. And large tax cuts have been rarer than the sighting of the blue whale. That is how historic is the decision made in Modi 2.0 and FM NS 1.0. The nation owes a strong debt of gratitude to these two masters of India's economic fate.

We want to end with a speculation. We believe that there is a strong possibility of a final corporate tax cut with the adoption of the direct tax code (DTC). The latter has to happen, and the most likely date is February 2020. The FM has left us with two corporate tax rates – 15 per cent (new manufacturing firms) and 22 per cent (all firms). Maybe the DTC compromise will be somewhere in-between – say 18 per cent for all firms?

*Bhalla is contributing editor, The Indian Express. Bhasin is a New Delhi-based policy researcher. Views are personal*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Some Americans see China as a threat. Such mind-set has hindered the development of the bilateral relationship and caused substantial harm to the two sides' national interests."

—GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

# Making crime less dark

Crime data in India is short on information on victims and witnesses. Victimation surveys can help



G S BAJPAI

THE TRUE EXTENT of crime in a society is seldom known. In times when evidence-based policing and data-driven policies are being advocated, the absence of exact data on crime could pose serious problems. In India, crime is under-reported and under-registered. The official picture with respect to crime in India is difficult to believe for several reasons. While popular perception associates many cities and states in India with crime, going by official statistics, the country has one of the lowest incidence of crime in the world. India's crime rate is 379.3 per 1,00,000 persons. Cases of dacoity, attempt to murder, robbery, rape and riot have gone down by 36.11 per cent, 16.26 per cent, 20.15 per cent, 0.78 per cent and 54 per cent respectively in 2018 as compared to the year before. Who will buy these statistics?

A major source of the problem lies in the manner in which crime data are collected and compiled. Crime data in India are collected and published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The data reported in this publication is based on the crime reported to local police stations. Police stations getting information about crime is one thing and such incidents being recorded as an FIR is another.

This is in addition to all kinds of pressures and obstacles on a complainant, especially when the nature of crime is that of sexual assault, domestic violence or when it involves family members, relatives or powerful people. The resistance put up by the police station personnel in registering such crimes or reducing the seriousness of incidents is well documented.

The NCRB data fall short of expectations in many respects. For instance, it is short on information about crime victims and witnesses. The official statistics miss out on several key areas: The profile of victims, their personal characteristics, victim-offender relationship, FIR registration experiences, experiences of interacting with police, number of days and time taken in getting FIR registered, instances of intimidation, pressure experienced from the accused or associates including police, nature of injury, medical assistance, information about legal aid, compensation.

The government is expected to embark on the country's first victimisation survey soon. The complexity of this endeavour demands that it be assigned to an institution that specialises in criminology, victimology and criminal justice administration.

Such a survey is not simply about data collection, it involves nuanced understanding of the facets of crime and victimisation and presupposes specialist knowledge. I hope the home ministry is listening.

The data generated by the state in India, in contrast, doesn't inspire public confidence. There are enough reasons to demystify crime and the people's response to it in India. India-specific yardsticks, which the NCRB does not cover, could be evolved. However, there could be several challenges to such surveys. For example, people might not reveal more than what they have divulged to the police. Even then, it is still an endeavour worth attempting. Today, there are several methodological innovations to overcome the bottlenecks.

The government is expected to embark on the country's first victimisation survey soon. The complexity of this endeavour demands that it be assigned to an institution that specialises in criminology, victimology and criminal justice administration. Such a survey is not simply about data collection, it involves nuanced understanding of the facets of crime and victimisation and presupposes specialist knowledge. I hope the home ministry is listening.

*The writer is professor and chairperson, Centre for Criminology & Victimology at National Law University Delhi and vice president of Victim Support Asia*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THOSE WHO INSPIRE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'You can't shop for teachers' (IE, September 26). The regimental approach of mass recruitment for teaching positions in any university might not be the best of ideas. Teaching as a profession should attract self-motivated individuals with not just the prescribed minimum qualification but inner passion. It requires individuals who can inspire their pupils and help in carving out a liberal space for learning and intellectual discourses. Part-time teachers who have the necessary qualifications should be considered for permanent absorption within the ranks over a period of time.

*Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata*

### LETTER OF THE WEEK

#### THE ROOT CAUSE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Vapourised' (IE, September 20). E-cigarettes are addictive and come with health hazards. As a measure to prevent health-related risks, banning nicotine products is not problematic. And to give the government the benefit of doubt, let's even assume that its intentions behind the move to ban e-cigarettes were genuine. But why not attack the root rather than the secondary cause? All cigarettes are injurious to health; the ones more injurious can stay, others must be banned.

*Srishti Mathur, Ujjain*

### RIGHTS OF ACCUSED

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Exorcising third-degree' (IE, September 27). It is correct that we need an anti-torture law to prevent atrocities committed by police during the course of investigation. It is equally important to train the local police station personnel about scientific ways to extract information from the accused. The SHOs should be made ac-

countable for the health of the accused. This would discourage them from taking recourse to violence and save innocents from getting tortured. Remember, the right to not be tortured is a part of the constitutional Right to Life.

*Shishir Singh, Prayagraj*

#### STATE AND TRUST

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Why property rights matter' (IE, 27th Sept 19). The authors have gone to the nub of the ills of the country's economy and polity. They rightly point out that institutions engaged in governance must earn the trust of citizens.

*Vinod Dhall, Gurgaon*

# Of sour grapes

The move to quit Commonwealth Games on flimsy grounds is unfair to athletes

to Olympic success, if everyone concerned maintains perspective.

Here is where Batra's views are coming from: Sports like shooting, wrestling, weightlifting, and even badminton and table tennis, are low-hanging fruit at the CWG. They rack in a bunch of medals for India, though the player still has to make the effort of actually plucking that fruit. What needs to be painfully pointed out to the IOA, is that India has had little success to show in what are acknowledged as the Big 3 of sports – track & field, swimming and gymnastics. Hockey has repeatedly exposed India's weaknesses against high competition and a boxing medal isn't exactly a cakewalk. India chooses to stay blind to team sports like netball, basketball, beach volleyball and Rugby sevens. But that points to their blinkers, not the low competition available.

India goes medal-grabbing against low competition at the Asian Games too, hoarding gold medals by the dozen there, especially in athletics, and then zero at the Olympics. The takeaway can't be that we stop competing, especially when – except in badminton and tennis – Indian athletes are competition-shy throughout the year, and will even avoid trials if they can. Kabaddi used to be India's stomping ground against low competition, until Iran decided they'll have a mighty chuckle last year. It'll be foolish to say India should stop

going to Asia!

At the heart of this outrageous idea of junking CWG altogether is the 2022 Birmingham CWG's decision to drop shooting from the programme, and India throwing a fit – offended that it'll drop down in the medals tally. "Colonial things" like having no Indian on 13 CWG committees are being mooted as possible reasons to evict a sport that does tend to be clunky and expensive with its infrastructure and, frankly, not quite a darling of television.

Glasgow, where Andy Murray was born, dropped tennis from its 2014 CWG programme, though it is the host nation's prerogative to pick their sports.

But it is India's completely cynical reaction to shooting being dropped – attributing racism and colonialism to the decision – that the debate got really muddied. It might still be some brinkmanship ahead of the Commonwealth Games Federation chief's India visit in November, but it appears a plan is being made to basically sit at home with a mighty sulk.

Great sporting nations don't sulk.

They get cracking on the new rules of the game, and prove a point on the sports field. This might be a good opportunity to make up for all the years of lagging behind in swimming, gymnastics and athletics – where high stan-

dards are available at the CWG; start building teams in more mainstream and popular sports; and, not remain myopic and hung up on medals that won't come this time around from shooting.

For non-Olympic squash players like Dipika Pallikal, Joshna Chinappa and Saurav Ghosal, the CWG is as big as it gets. And, the IOA might want to leave it to the likes of Rani Rampaul and Lalremriami in hockey and cricketers like Harmanpreet Kaur, Jemimah Rodrigues to get on with their unfinished business with England. The hockey players have high standards – set 20 years ago by Suraj Lata's team – to match. And the cricketers (Women's T20 is set to debut at Birmingham) would want a shot at the inaugural CWG title, beating England in the finals hopefully. If Batra would only notice, India's men and women tend to be good at "colonial things" like settling scores on the field: Parupalli Kashyap was playing out of his skin against England's Rajeev Ouseph in the semifinals at Glasgow in 2014, before going on to win the finals. The IOA, meanwhile, was famously trying to secure the release of some reckless Indian officials who were caught by Scotland police authorities for some allegedly embarrassing activities. CWG is for the athletes.

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SHIVANI NAIK

IT NEEDED A Shah Rukh Khan film (*Chak De! India*, 2007) to put the focus on Suraj Lata Devi and Mamta Kharab – five years after India's 2002 Commonwealth Games (CWG) gold in women's hockey. India had beaten England for the CWG gold then, defeating Australia in the semifinals, and it wasn't a lightweight achievement.

Except, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) boss, Narinder Batra, now calls the Commonwealth Games a "waste of time" because "the level of competition isn't high". His grouse is that India wins anything between 70 and 100 medals at the CWG, but just two at the Olympics – so the conversion is abysmal. India won 57 medals at the Asiad before the 2016 Rio Olympics, but no one talks of dumping that one.

The Indian men's hockey team has never won a CWG gold. Because, as Batra will notice, Australia tends to be very high competition. The event is not a waste if it has unearthed gems like Ashish Kumar and Dipa Karmakar in gymnastics. Saina Nehwal, Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponappa's first flush of finals' success also came at the CWG, followed by the World Championship and Olympic medals. Manika Batra, with her twin gold performance in table tennis, was a revelation at the CWG Gold Coast. Clearly, the gains – if not squandered – can convert



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2	8859	MIS CHAUDHARI FARE PRAKASH	9285290281	1 - NARELA	931	931	MIS BHIM SHANKAR	46 - CHHATTARPUR	
3	9164	RAVI PROVISION STORE	9810749400	1 - NARELA	98	7549	MIS GUTA PRAGYAN STORE	47 - DEOLI	
4	6600	MIS SATYAPRAKASH RAJ SINGH	913080475	1 - NARELA	199	7481	MIS PAHADIYA STORE	47 - DEOLI	
5	7041	MIS RAM SINGH STORE	98271077	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	200	6262	MIS RAM SINGH CHANDER SEN	47 - DEOLI	
6	6145	MIS TOM STORE	997112338	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	201	5839	MIS KALASH CHAND	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
7	5143	MIS PIRTHIVI CHAND VINOD KUMAR	9990141739	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	202	4544	MIS RAJKUMAR GOVAL	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
8	6487	HOUSE A M CHAND RAM KUMAR	9911046410	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	203	4991	MIS RAM SAHAY	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
9	899	MIS RAM SINGH CHAND	92871070	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	204	7611	MIS RAM SINGH STORE	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
10	4437	MIS RAM CHANDER BHAGWAT PRASAD	921204437	10 - SULTANPUR MAJRA	205	6542	MIS SHANKARI LAL	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
11	4097	MIS ASHOKA GRAN DEPOT	9810818508	11 - NANGLOI JAT	206	8511	MIS LAXMI STORE	48 - AMBEDKAR NAGAR	
12	6759	MIS JAGDISH LAL	9213621060	11 - NANGLOI JAT	207	7008	MIS JAGDAMBA STORE	49 - SANGAM VIHAR	
13	6753	MIS JAGDISH PROGAD AND BROS	9999992724	11 - NANGLOI JAT	208	6303	MIS LAXMI DUSHYANT KUMAR	49 - SANGAM VIHAR	
14	4098	MIS HARDWARI LAL	8860022419	11 - NANGLOI JAT	209	6632	MIS DAL CHAND	50 - GREATER KALASH	
15	7132	MIS DURGA PROVISION STORE	9212120309	12 - MANGOLPUR	210	6505	MIS ARORA STORE	50 - GREATER KALASH	
16	6213	MIS BHUSHAN STORE	9818113146	12 - MANGOLPUR	211	6559	MIS MOHD. FAROOQH	50 - GREATER KALASH	
17	6745	MIS BHUSHAN SINGH KRISHAN	9540514665	12 - MANGOLPUR	212	6331	MIS MOHD. SOEHN	50 - GREATER KALASH	
18	7718	MIS ARVIND BROTHERS	9953040611	12 - MANGOLPUR	213	3861	MIS RATI LAL	50 - GREATER KALASH	
19	5121	MIS PRABHAK SINGH AND CO	9999110141	12 - MANGOLPUR	214	6851	MIS NARSINGH CHAWLA	50 - GREATER KALASH	
20	4011	MIS RAM CHANDRA DASS RAM NIWAS	92871070	12 - MANGOLPUR	215	7433	MIS RAM CHANDRA	50 - GREATER KALASH	
21	8409	MIS GIRI RAJ STORE	991067687	13 - ROHINI	216	5266	MIS SUNDER LAL ROSHAN LAL	50 - GREATER KALASH	
22	4249	MIS PUSHP LATA RISHI PRAKASH	9311312604	13 - ROHINI	217	5844	MIS VINDU KUMAR	50 - GREATER KALASH	
23	8404	MIS SANJAY STORE	9891233607	13 - ROHINI	218	7833	MIS JANTA FAIR PRICE SHOP	50 - GREATER KALASH	
24	5941	MIS SHAMBHU PROVISION STORE	9213621339	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	219	5811	MIS JANTA STORE	50 - GREATER KALASH	
25	8859	MIS JAI SHRI RAM	9810876565	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	220	5159	MIS GOHDA RAM JAGADISH KUMAR	51 - KALKAJI	
26	6395	MIS SANTA STORE	9891995751	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	221	6338	MIS BANSAL STORE	51 - KALKAJI	
27	824	MIS SHRI RAM CHAND KUMAR	9999626246	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	222	7488	MIS JANTA STORE	51 - KALKAJI	
28	6245	MIS SANTA STORE	9212120302	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	223	5423	MIS RAM CHAND KUMAR GUPTA	51 - KALKAJI	
29	8422	MIS GAYATRI STORE	9811134563	14 - SHALIMAR BAGH	224	7518	MIS BANSAL STORE	51 - KALKAJI	
30	6525	MIS VIJAY FAIR PRICE SHOP	9312216272	15 - SHAKUR BASTI	225	8623	MIS KASANA STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
31	7041	MIS VIJAY VIJAYA PROVISION STORE	9899665253	15 - SHAKUR BASTI	226	8524	MIS KALKAJI GENERAL STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
32	6533	MIS MURLI KRISHNA PROVISION STORE	9212154845	15 - SHAKUR BASTI	227	8625	MIS KARLA F K STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
33	5358	MIS BITAU STORE	9312369501	16 - TRI NAGAR	228	8690	MIS JAI MAAN BHAGVATI STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
34	8591	MIS GARG STORE	9911548944	16 - TRI NAGAR	229	5312	MIS MAKHAN LAL DHARAMVIR	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
35	6598	MIS KAVAR LAL	989112672	16 - TRI NAGAR	230	6783	MIS JANTA STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
36	590	MIS KAVAR LAL RATN LAL	9811204880	16 - TRI NAGAR	231	7547	MIS JAGDISH STORE	52 - TUGHAKABAD	
37	4140	MIS GULJARI LAL YOGESH CHANDER	9210083576	16 - TRI NAGAR	232	9028	MIS DHARMENDER STORE	53 - BADPUR	
38	600	MIS DHANANJEE SHYAM CHANDER	9811166686	16 - TRI NAGAR	233	9029	MIS SATGURU STORE	53 - BADPUR	
39	601	MIS SUDAR SHIVAM KUMAR	9212120302	16 - TRI NAGAR	234	7331	MIS RAM CHAND KUMAR	53 - BADPUR	
40	6189	MIS SATYA KUMAR DIPAK KUMAR	9899665253	17 - WAZIRPUR	235	9044	MIS LALIT STORE	54 - OKHLA	
41	7376	MIS PRAGATI STORE	9899665253	17 - WAZIRPUR	236	8809	MIS TAJMUR NAGAR	54 - OKHLA	
42	7500	MIS VIJAY VIJAYA PROVISION STORE	9899665253	17 - WAZIRPUR	237	8524	MIS KALKAJI PROVISIONAL STORE	54 - OKHLA	
43	7156	MIS KULDEEP	9811321574	17 - WAZIRPUR	238	5430	MIS KAMLA GENERAL STORE	54 - OKHLA	
44	6449	MIS ASHOK KUMAR SINGH	9899602000	18 - MODEL TOWN	239	5114	MIS KALAM KUMAR GUPTA	54 - OKHLA	
45	8619	MIS RAJ SINGH STORE	9289901849	18 - MODEL TOWN	240	7321	MIS KALKAJI CHANDRA	54 - OKHLA	
46	4061	MIS RAM CHANDRA KUMAR	989112672	18 - MODEL TOWN	241	8079	MIS KALKAJI CHANDRA	54 - OKHLA	
47	3043	MIS VIJAY KUMAR BHARAT BHUSHAN	9811606331	18 - MODEL TOWN	242	4240	MIS OM PRAKASH ROSHAN LAL	55 - TRILOK PURI	
48	3884	MIS SHIV LAL OM PRAKASH	9891051552	18 - MODEL TOWN	243	4903	MIS BHARI LAL GOVAL	55 - TRILOK PURI	
49	9426	MIS BALI STORE	9212120302	18 - MODEL TOWN	244	7235	MIS MOHAR SINGH TEJ	55 - TRILOK PURI	
50	7509	MIS BHARAT BROTHERS	9211094591	19 - SADAR BAZAR	245	5541	MIS RAM CHANDRA	56 - KONDLI	
51	1528	MIS R C BAHAL	9213785323	19 - SADAR BAZAR	246	8039	MIS NAVIN STORE	56 - KONDLI	
52	7320	MIS SHIV KHADY BHANDAR	9213785323	19 - SADAR BAZAR	247	6928	MIS RAHUL PROVISION STORE	56 - KONDLI	
53	534	MIS OM RAVI BHANU PAPAL	9999926837	19 - SADAR BAZAR	248	8941	MIS KALKAJI STORE	56 - KONDLI	
54	9487	Mis Rupinder Rathay Store		20 - KALKAJI	249	9054	MIS SINGLE STORE	56 - KONDLI	
55	5098	MIS HANS RAJ CHAWLA	9211205594	20 - KALKAJI	250	7226	MIS GOPI CHAND	57 - PATPARGANJ	
56	7399	MIS VINOD KUMAR MUNNA LAL	9212766901	20 - KALKAJI	251	5385	MIS CHHIDRADIL GOVAL	57 - PATPARGANJ	
57	7377	MIS RAM CHANDRA KUMAR	9212120302	20 - KALKAJI	252	6193	MIS NIMIT PROVISION STORE	57 - PATPARGANJ	
58	4378	MIS ANIL KUMAR BRAJ KISHOR	9313484028	20 - KALKAJI	253	6969	MIS KHICHU MAL NAYAK	57 - PATPARGANJ	
59	9388	MIS JANTA STORE	9811126988	20 - KALKAJI	254	8580	MIS NIMIT PROVISION STORE	57 - PATPARGANJ	
60	4959	MIS JOHARI MAL HUKAM CHAND	9810418608	20 - KALKAJI	255	5058	MIS SURENDER KUMAR GUPTA	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
61	7140	MIS BHARAT PROVISION STORE	9211094591	20 - KALKAJI	256	7039	MIS SURENDER KUMAR GUPTA	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
62	7589	MIS BHARAT PROVISIONAL STORE	9899605310	21 - MATIA MAHAL	257	5472	MIS SHYAM STORE	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
63	1237	MIS JANTA PROVISIONAL STORE	9873282067	21 - MATIA MAHAL	258	4899	MIS JANTA STORE	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
64	1152	MIS BHAGWATI ISLAM	9899665253	21 - MATIA MAHAL	259	8626	MIS JANTA STORE	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
65	5098	MIS BHAGWATI DAS PREM NARAYAN	9891147422	21 - MATIA MAHAL	260	5449	MIS JANTA STORE	58 - LAXMI NAGAR	
66	7591	MIS JANTA STORE	9211205594	21 - MATIA MAHAL	261	9150	MUKTA MAHAL BACHAT SAMUH	59 - VISHWAS NAGAR	
67	7052	MIS CHANDRASEKHAR	9932144442	21 - MATIA MAHAL	262	6776	MIS CHANDRASEKHAR	59 - VISHWAS NAGAR	
68	5931	MIS CHANDRASEKHAR	9212120302	21 - MATIA MAHAL	263	6780	MIS CHANDRASEKHAR	59 - VISHWAS NAGAR	
69	9106	Mobile Van(DSCSC)	97161						



# THE WORLD

## TOP OF THE WORLD



Vladimir Putin

## RUSSIA

'Hope US won't release Trump, Putin calls'

Moscow: Russia voiced hope Friday that the US wouldn't publish conversations between the two nations' presidents. The rough transcript of Trump's call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy released by the White House Wednesday shows Trump urged Ukraine to "look into" political rival Joe Biden. Asked if Moscow is worried that the US could transcripts of Trump's calls with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said "we would like to hope it wouldn't come to that in our relations, which are already troubled..."

## PAKISTAN

Brother of social media star jailed for her murder

Lahore: Pakistani social media star Qandeel Baloch's brother was sentenced to life imprisonment by a court on Friday for murdering her in an apparent case of honour killing. Fouzia Azeem, better known as Qandeel was strangled to death at her home in Multan, Punjab province, on July 15, 2016. Sessions Court Multan Judge Imran Shafi announced his verdict in the case in the presence of all suspects and parents of Baloch, 26. While the court awarded life imprisonment to brother of Qandeel, Muhammad Wasim, it acquitted all other suspects

## INDONESIA

Quake death toll rises to 23

Jakarta: The death toll from an earthquake that rocked Indonesia's remote Maluku islands has risen to 23, the disaster agency said Friday, as more than 15,000 people were evacuated to shelters. Terrified residents ran into the streets as buildings fell in around them with the 6.5-magnitude tremor sparking landslides that buried at least one victim Thursday. Among the dead was an infant, with many killed by falling debris in and around quake-struck Ambon city. "The total number of people who died is 23," national disaster mitigation agency spokesman Agus Wibowo said in a statement.

## LARGEST PROTESTS UNDER CURRENT REGIME

# Egypt in turmoil, over 2,000 held amid calls for 'million-man march'

Police seal off Tahrir Square, key site of 2011 Arab Spring protests

## AGENCIES

CAIRO, SEPTEMBER 27

THE PLAINCLOTHES security men stood every few yards along the bridge over the Nile. T-shirts tight across their muscled chests, guns at their hips, stopping young men to ask for identification and look through their phones. They were delivering a message that did not need to be spoken aloud.

Since a handful of surprise protests against President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi flared around Egypt last weekend, the largest since he came to power in 2014, the government has tightened its grip, arresting nearly 2,000 Egyptians, packing Cairo and other protest hot spots with security personnel



**"There are no reasons for concern. Egypt is a strong country thanks to Egyptians"**

— ABDEL AL-SISI

EGYPT'S PRESIDENT, AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

and blocking news websites. News website *Aljazeera* reported that there were calls for a "million-man march" against Sisi.

Egyptian security forces also completely sealed off Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the so-called Arab Spring uprising in 2011.

It is a crackdown harsh even by the standards of the al-Sisi era, when Egyptian jails have swollen with his political opponents, elections are predetermined and opposition has been all but silenced, making shows of dissent extremely rare.

Al-Sisi warned Friday against "deceitful" attempts to discredit his rule. "It is all based on lies, distortion and fabrication. You should be aware of that," he said upon his arrival at Cairo airport.

Hundreds of his supporters rallied to greet him, raising his picture and waving Egyptian flags.

But no one knows if it will be enough to deter a second round of demonstrations that the protests' original instigator, a self-proclaimed whistleblower living in exile, has called for Friday.

"I just couldn't help myself. I had to protest, I had to let out my anger," said Mostafa, 20, a student who attended the protest in Cairo last Friday and, like most of those interviewed, declined to give his full name. "I'm sick of living in a fascist state, of being repressed politically and economically. These were supposed to be the best years of my life."

But he planned to stay away from any protests this Friday and was urging people he knew to do the same, afraid they might get arrested. "I see a black future,

even if a revolution erupts," he said. "Last Friday was the first time I truly felt scared. I don't know if that just means I've grown up, or if the situation really is that terrifying."

Egyptians interviewed this week were on edge. They said they were struggling under al-Sisi's economic policies, which have left a third of Egyptians in poverty, according to a July report by the country's official statistics agency. Yet they dreaded a return to the turmoil that many remember from protests that toppled their leaders in 2011 and 2013. Some were fed up with al-Sisi's zero-tolerance government, yet terrified of defying it.

Human Rights Watch said Egypt's authorities should respect the right of peaceful assembly by allowing protests, and should release all those arrested. "The nationwide crackdown on protests suggests that President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi is terrified of Egyptians' criticisms," said Sarah Laird Whitson, the group's Middle East and North Africa director.



## FIRES UNABATED IN AMAZON RAINFOREST

An aerial view of a fire in a tract of the Amazon jungle, as farmers try to clear it, in Itaituba, Brazil. Reuters

British-flagged vessel sets sail after Iran release

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

TEHRAN, SEPTEMBER 27

THE BRITISH-FLAGGED oil tanker Stena Impero, which had been held off the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas for more than two months, set sail Friday, the provincial maritime organisation said.

The ship's seizure was widely seen as a tit-for-tat move after authorities in Gibraltar detained an Iranian tanker on suspicion it was shipping oil to Syria in breach of EU sanctions.

The Stena Impero started sailing from the mooring towards the Persian Gulf's international waters as of 9:00 am (local time) today, Hormozgan's maritime organisation said on its website. "Despite the vessel's clearance, its legal case is still open in Iran's courts," it added.

Iran was ready for negotiations but not in an atmosphere

US offered to remove sanctions in exchange for talks: Rouhani

## BABAK DEHGHANPISHEH

GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 27

THE UNITED States offered to remove all sanctions on Iran in exchange for talks but Tehran has not yet accepted the offer due to the current "toxic atmosphere", Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Friday.

Rouhani, speaking on his return from the United Nations General Assembly in New York, said he met there with US officials at the insistence of Germany, Britain and France.

"It was up for debate what sanctions will be lifted and they (the United States) had said clearly that we will lift all sanctions," Rouhani said, according to his official website.

Iran was ready for negotiations but not in an atmosphere

## WILL CONTINUE OIL TRADE WITH IRAN: ERDOGAN

## TURKISH PRESIDENT

Tayyip Erdogan said Friday it was impossible for Turkey to stop buying oil and natural gas from Iran, despite the threat of US sanctions.

Speaking to reporters

on his return flight from New York, Erdogan said Turkey was not afraid of possible US sanctions over its trade with Iran, adding Ankara did not want to sever its cooperation with Tehran.

REUTERS

of sanctions and pressure, the Iranian president said.

"This action wasn't in a manner that was acceptable, meaning that in the atmosphere of sanctions and the existence of sanctions and the toxic atmosphere of maximum pressure, even if we want to negotiate with the Americans in the 5+1 framework, no one can predict what the end and result

of this negotiation will be," he said.

Crude slipped on the report, adding to earlier losses caused by a faster-than-expected recovery in Saudi output, slowing Chinese economic growth, a Wall Street Journal report saying that Saudi Arabia had agreed a partial ceasefire in Yemen. Brent crude was trading below \$62 a barrel.

## LIKELY TO BE WORLD'S NEWEST NATION

### ISLAND TO HOLD INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM

The war-ravaged Pacific island of Bougainville will hold a referendum on independence from Papua New Guinea later this year, authorities said Friday, a vote that caps a decades-long peace process. The ballot follows a spluttering 20-year peace process and a decade of war that ended in 1998 and devastated the island – killing 10,000-15,000 people

## TRUMP-UKRAINE ISSUE

# Pelosi accuses US attorney general of going rogue

## A BRIEF TIMELINE OF THE UKRAINE ISSUE

## JANUARY

President Trump's personal lawyer, Rudolph W Giuliani, meets in New York for hours with a Ukrainian prosecutor. Mr Giuliani pushes for information about – and investigations into – Trump's rivals, including Biden

White House chief of staff, to hold back almost \$400 million in aid to Ukraine

## JULY 25

Trump speaks to Zelensky by phone and asks for a "favor": Ukraine's help in looking into an unfounded conspiracy theory that Ukrainians were involved in hacking the Democratic National Committee. Trump also cites his desire to look at Biden and his son

## SEPTEMBER 9

The intelligence community inspector general sends a letter to the House and Senate Intelligence Committees informing them of the existence of a whistleblower complaint

## MID-JULY

Trump instructs Mick Mulvaney, the acting

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.

"He's gone rogue," Pelosi said of Barr in an interview with MSNBC.

Meanwhile, Democrats are urging people who might have more information about President Donald Trump's effort to persuade Ukraine to investigate political rival Joe Biden to come forward as Trump struggles to contain the fallout from the scandal.

Democrat Adam Schiff, who chairs the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee and is one of Trump's biggest opponents, called for more people to come forward who have knowledge of the Ukraine case.

"I'm hoping that these witnesses will choose to cooperate, will volunteer. But I have to say I am deeply worried now that the president, on the eve of our hearing or during our hearing, was threatening these witnesses," Schiff told CNN on Thursday.

## All deals off if Israel annexes key territory: Abbas at UN

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

UNITED NATIONS, SEPT 27

PALESTINIAN PRESIDENT Mahmud Abbas told the United Nations he would terminate all signed agreements with Israel if it moved forward with plans announced by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to annex a key part of the West Bank.

Netanyahu, who is trying to form a new government following a deadlocked election, pledged after the vote to impose Israeli sovereignty over the Jordan Valley and the northern Dead Sea which account for one-third of the West Bank.

The promise was widely condemned, including by UN chief Antonio Guterres who warned it would violate international law.

"Our response, if any Israeli government is to proceed with this plan, is that all signed agreements with the government of the occupation and any obligations therein will be terminated," Abbas said Thursday.

"And it is our right to defend our rights by all possible means, regardless of consequences, while remaining committed to international law and combatting terrorism," he warned.

Abbas made a similar vow in July, but did not follow through.



Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas made a similar vow in July, but did not follow through. Reuters file

## UN launches probe into Venezuela rights abuses

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 27

THE UN Human Rights Council on Friday voted to send a team of investigators to probe alleged violations, including extrajudicial executions and torture, in crisis-wracked Venezuela.

A resolution tabled by more than a dozen countries from Latin America and elsewhere was adopted by the 47-member council with 19 votes in favour, seven opposed and 21 abstaining.

It called for the UN's top rights body to "dispatch urgently an independent international fact-finding mission" to Venezuela.

The mission, the text said, should "investigate extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture and other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment".

"Venezuelans, men and women, cannot wait any longer" for justice, said the representative of Peru, on behalf of sponsoring nations, who also included Argentina and Canada.



## Probe with no access

Following the UN vote, Venezuelan Ambassador Jorge Valero said his country had no intention of cooperating.

When such UN teams are not granted entry, they can still carry out the probe from abroad. Venezuela has been caught in a political and economic crisis, suffering from hyperinflation and shortages of basic goods. At least 3.6 million people have fled the country since 2016. Friday's resolution pointed out UN findings that over 6,000 killings since 2018 may have been "executions".

## IMPORTANT TO MAKE A STAND AGAINST OTHER GENERATIONS THAT HAVE REALLY SCREWED OVER OUR PLANET'

# Kiwi children rally behind Greta: We're skipping school to teach you a lesson

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WELLINGTON, SEPTEMBER 27

MORE THAN 40,000 people packed into the grounds of Wellington's parliament buildings Friday, giving the latest global climate strike a flying start with the largest turnout yet seen in New Zealand.

Children in school uniform marched alongside teens with skateboards tucked under their arms and grey-haired protest veterans supporting the younger generation. Participants carried signs saying "We're skipping school to teach YOU a lesson".

"People do have every right to be angry. My generation shouldn't be out here missing school," he said at the



Protesters march in Wellington on Friday. AP

Wellington strike.

"But it's really important to me

that we're out here making a stand against other generations

that have really screwed over our planet. "If enough of us come out here and show enough mana (honour) and support for each other the message will get through."

Young people had to act, 14-year-old Armand Headland said, arguing that inaction would see the planet transformed into an uninhabitable wasteland.

"It'll be just like Venus because it's so hot... there's not going to be any humans left because of our activity if we keep burning stuff," he said.

Michael Alspach, 37, braved the crowds with 17-month-old toddler Ella, saying he would not

be able to look his daughter in the eye unless he did everything in his power to secure her future.

"It's probably not going to be too bad for me, to be honest, but that's going to be 80 in 2100 and that's when the projections are looking quite bad, so I'm doing it for her," he said.

While dissatisfied at the climate commitments made in New York, Alspach was confident the push for meaningful action was gaining momentum.

"It's great to see so many people out here. Changing perspectives is the first step, actions come after ideas – I'm hopeful," he said.

In an update to the tree section of its "Red List" of threatened species, International

## Over half of Europe's endemic tree species risk extinction

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 27

Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) said that out of the 454 tree species native to Europe, 42 per cent could disappear from the continent.



Gracia Lam/NYT

## The temporary memory lapse of Transient Global Amnesia

Those with the condition do not experience any alteration in consciousness or abnormal movements. Only the ability to lay down memories is affected.

JANE E BRODY

LATE ONE morning in June, J's husband got a distressed call from one of his wife's colleagues.

"You'd better come here right away. Your wife is acting weird," the colleague said. J, who had just returned from a doctor visit during which she underwent a minor painful procedure, kept asking her colleague for a password despite being told each time that was none.

J, a 61-year-old arts administrator in New York who did not want her full name used, seemed physically OK, her colleague recalled. She knew who she was, she walked and talked properly, but what she said made no sense. Plus, J could remember nothing that happened after she left the doctor's office and made her way to work.

When J continued to behave oddly, the alarmed colleague called 911 and paramedics took her to Mount Sinai St Luke's Hospital.

The next thing J remembers is waking up hours later in a hospital bed and asking, "Where am I? Why am I here?" In the interim, Dr Carolyn Brockington, a vascular neurologist and director of the hospital's stroke unit, had examined her and ordered a CT scan and MRI of her brain. All the results were normal. There was no physical weakness, no structural abnormality, no evidence of a stroke, seizure or transient ischemic attack. So, what had happened?

A diagnosis of exclusion: Transient global amnesia, often called TGA. It is a temporary lapse in memory that can never be retrieved. "It's as if the brain is on overload and takes a break to recharge," Brockington said in an interview. She likened it to rebooting a com-

puter to eradicate an unexplainable glitch. Those with TGA do not experience any alteration in consciousness or abnormal movements. Only the ability to lay down memories is affected. All other parts of the brain appear to be working normally.

Though TGA is relatively rare — it affects about five people in 1,000,000 in the general population — given her specialty Brockington said she sees one or two patients a week with TGA. Nearly all are over 50, and among older adults, the incidence is more like 23 cases per year, 10,000 persons per year, with men and women affected equally.

As one patient, Frank McAndrew, a professor of psychology at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, reported in Environmental Psychology, his wife became alarmed when he appeared disoriented and confused, and kept asking the same questions over and over again.

McAndrew wrote, based on his wife's recall, "Each time I asked a question, I used exactly the same words, voice inflection, and hand gestures. I knew who I was, I knew who my wife was, and I knew who my dog was. The problem was that I could not put anything new into my memory or keep track of anything that had transpired more than a minute or two ago. It was as if my memory erased everything and reset every 90 seconds." At the emergency room, all tests came back negative, and 24 hours later, he was back to normal.

"When TGA happens to people, it's more terrifying to the people around them,"

Brockington said. "Later, after the event is over and they can't retrieve the lost memories, it's more terrifying to the patients. They need to know they have to let it go — their brain wasn't recording at the time." No matter how hard they may try, there's nothing in their memory bank to be recalled.

TGA is a benign condition that leaves no lasting effects except perhaps frustration over the missing memories. An episode typically lasts for one to eight hours, most often resolves within a day, and happens again in only 4 per cent or 5 per cent of patients.

Although TGA was well-described medically more than 40 years ago, its cause or causes have yet to be established. One leading suspect is venous congestion, a slowdown of blood flow leaving the brain. There is also some evidence for a loss of neurons or a disruption in blood flow in a region of the brain's hippocampus.

TGA sometimes occurs following excessive alcohol consumption, large doses of barbiturates or use of illegal drugs. Neurologists have also identified a number of precipitating non-drug events: sudden immersion in cold or hot water; physical exertion; acute emotional or psychological stress; pain; medical procedures; sexual intercourse; and the Valsalva manoeuvre (a forceful attempt to exhale against a closed airway).

For men, TGA is more likely to occur following a physical trigger; for women, it is more often associated with an emotional precipitant or a history of anxiety. Both men and women with a history of migraine are

believed to be more susceptible than others to a TGA episode. Those who experience TGA are no more likely to suffer a stroke or heart attack than people who have never had the condition.

There is also no treatment. People simply have to wait out the episode and give any residual foginess time to clear before returning to their usual activities.

I now wonder if what I thought was a mild concussion was really TGA when on a beautiful September morning in 2017 I seem to have fallen off my bike for no apparent reason after swimming laps at the Y. I was not dizzy, there was no obstacle I might have hit, and I have no memory of almost falling.

I do recall feeling great as I started a slow uphill ride on my block, something I do daily, and then remember nothing else until about 30 minutes later, when I left my house to retrieve my bicycle while holding a wet paper towel under my bleeding chin. I had not hit my head and had no headache or bruise, but probably cut my chin on the bike basket.

During the intervening minutes, although I remember none of this, I had apparently walked the bike to my house, brought it in my backpack and helmet and put a package of spinach into the refrigerator. Afterward, my son insisted that I get the cut stitched and walked me to the emergency room, where the intake doctor ruled out any medical explanation for my fall and told me to take it easy for the rest of the day.

Lacking any residual symptoms, I was — and still am — most disturbed by the fact that I have no idea why or how I fell and thus no way to avoid it in the future. But if TGA was the cause, it most likely will never happen again.

NYT

**TGA's cause or causes have yet to be established. One leading suspect is venous congestion, a slowdown of blood flow leaving the brain**

## How an ice bath may undermine your weight workout

Cold water immersion is popular with some athletes, but it may slow the growth of new muscle

GRETCHEN REYNOLDS

BATHTUBS FILLED with frigid water and occasionally dotted with ice cubes are a common sight in professional athletes' training rooms and at some gyms. Many recreational athletes also slip into cold baths at home after intense workouts. But soaking in icy water after lifting weights can change how muscles respond to the workout and result in less muscle growth than doing nothing to recover, according to a cautionary new study of young men and their muscles. The study underscores that how we opt to recover from exercise may influence what we gain from the exercise and in some times unintended ways.

Almost no one claims that nippy baths are pleasant; the iciness tends to be pin-prickingly uncomfortable. But adherents believe the frigid waters reduce soreness and inflammation in muscles after draining exercise, lessen muscle damage, allow people to return to full training sooner, and encourage changes within the tis-

sue that contribute to hypertrophy, which is the formal name for muscle growth.

There have been scientific hints in recent years, however, that icy baths after exercise might not be working in ways that most icy bathers anticipate. Some studies found no differences in muscle and performance gains between athletes who soak after exertions and those who do not. And at least one experiment suggested that any positive physical impacts from cold soaks resulted from the placebo effect.

But many questions remain unanswered about the effects of the baths, including what happens at a molecular level inside exercisers' muscles when they soak in frigid water, and what those molecular effects might mean for the effectiveness of subsequent workouts.

So, for the new study, published this month in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*, scientists from Deakin University in Melbourne, Victoria University, also in Melbourne, and other institutions, decided to ask a group of volunteers to brave the discomforts of frigid water in inflatable bathtubs while the scientists tracked



the state of their muscles.

NYT

The researchers began by recruiting 16 healthy young men who were not currently lifting weights. They tested the men's current muscular strength and their body composition and then divided them into two groups. Both groups started a full-body, progressive, resistance-training routine, with stan-

At the conclusion of each session, half of

the men recovered by sitting quietly in a room at the gym for 15 minutes. The others eased themselves into cold baths after every workout, the waters cooled to a constant temperature of about 50 degrees Fahrenheit (10 degrees Celsius). The men gamely remained in the tubs for 15 minutes.

They continued these workouts three times a week for seven weeks. After the final workout, the scientists again biopsied the volunteers' muscles and rechecked the men's leg strength and body compositions. Then they examined the muscle tissues microscopically and began comparing the groups.

On the whole, they found, the members of both groups were stronger now. But, underneat, their tissues appeared quite unlike.

Muscles are composed of long fibres that plump and grow in response to training, and, as would be expected, all of the men had developed larger muscle fibres with seven weeks of lifting. But the increase in fibre size was much greater among those who sat after every workout than those who had soaked to recover.

More surprising, the cold soakers showed a different balance of certain biochemicals inside their muscles than among the men who had sat. In particular, their muscles contained

lower levels of a protein known to spark tissue growth and higher amounts of a different protein involved in tissue breakdown.

In effect, the soakers' muscles seemed to have become biochemically primed for slower recovery and less growth than the tissues of the other men, says Aaron Petersen, a senior lecturer in exercise physiology at Victoria University, who led the new study. Petersen and his colleagues suspect that the repeated cold-water immersions may have triggered complex metabolic reactions inside the body that prioritise keeping tissues warm over helping them to grow. But that theory needs to be studied in future experiments.

This study also was small and involved only young men and weight training, so its findings might not apply to women, older people or athletes in other sports. The results could even have different implications for some exercisers. "If a person doesn't want to build muscle," Petersen says, icy baths after lifting might be worthwhile.

But for anyone hoping to grow both stronger and more muscular with gym workouts, he says, "based on our study and previous research, using cold-water immersion following weight training is not recommended".

### SHORT COURSE

[0-30 YEARS]

#### Gum disease may up risk for high BP

FOR A study in *Cardiovascular Research*, researchers combined results of 81 studies including more than 2,00,000 people. Using a blood pressure reading of 140/90 or higher as definition of hypertension, they found people with a diagnosis of gum disease were 20 per cent more likely to have high blood pressure than those with healthy gums.

The more severe the gum disease, the higher the risk. A diagnosis of moderate periodontal disease was associated with a 22 per cent increased risk of hypertension, and severe gum disease with a 49 per cent increased risk. On average, people with gum disease had a 4.5-point higher systolic blood pressure reading (top number). A 5-point increase in systolic pressure has been linked to a 25 per cent increased risk of death from heart disease. Twelve of the studies examined effect of periodontal treatment, but only five found evidence that treating gum disease would lower blood pressure.

DRINKING COFFEE has been tied to a range of health benefits. Here's another: It may reduce the risk for gallstones. Danish researchers did a two-part study. In the first, they followed 1,04,493 men and women for eight years. They had data on their coffee consumption, and during that time, there were 2,233 cases of gallstones. The researchers found that every additional cup a day of coffee, up to six cups, resulted in a 3 per cent lower risk for gallstones. Compared with people who drank none, those who drank coffee had a 7 to 23 per cent reduced risk for gallstones, depending on how much they drank. Then they used a genetic technique called Mendelian randomisation that takes advantage of randomised distribution of genetic variants in the population. They found that people with two genetic variants known to be associated with caffeine intake had an 11 per cent reduced risk of gallstones for each additional daily cup of coffee.

NYT

hours longer than recommended to call for help and get to the hospital, researchers found. In a sudden attack, patients have severe pain from the start. But symptoms of a gradual attack — breathing trouble and tightness of chest — are not so obvious, the authors note. "Victims must not worry their symptoms might be a false alarm," said Dr Sahereh Mirzaei of University of Illinois, who led the study.

REUTERS

[50 + YEARS]

#### People don't recognise heart attacks when symptoms come on slowly: Researchers

WHEN HEART attack symptoms start gradually and don't follow exertion, patients are much slower to get to an emergency room and risk missing a critical window for preserving heart function, researchers say. Among 474 US patients who arrived in emergency departments with dangerous reductions in blood flow to the heart, those whose symptoms had come on gradually took up to six

hours longer than recommended to call for help and get to the hospital, researchers found.

In a sudden attack, patients have severe pain from the start. But symptoms of a gradual attack — breathing trouble and tightness of chest — are not so obvious, the authors note. "Victims must not worry their symptoms might be a false alarm," said Dr Sahereh Mirzaei of University of Illinois, who led the study.

REUTERS

DIET DIARY

#### Tips on nutrition, from Mahatma Gandhi



BY ISHI KHOSLA

FROM A very young age, Mahatma Gandhi was particular about his diet. He was a believer in the power of food and its impact on an individual's mind and body. His several experiments with diet on his own body continued through his lifetime till he arrived at his own philosophy on food-wisdom packaged in a book called *Key to Health*.

He believed in the importance of vegetarianism with milk, curd, butter and ghee. He was a lover of khichri, dalia, brown rice, daal, lauki, beetroot juice, honey with water, onion and garlic. He believed one must eat to live.

He believed in fasting and the fact that restraint in diet — both in quantity and quality — is as essential as restraint in thought and speech. Of all his experiments with diet, fasting was perhaps the most well-known and he observed a total of 17 fasts during India's freedom struggle, the longest lasting 21 days.

The wisdom of his dietary recommendations is consistent with those expressed by modern evidence-based medicine. A balanced diet, rich in proteins, roughage, vitamins and minerals and with healthy fats, limited sugars and salt has always been a part of the dietary

recommendations for prevention of modern lifestyle-related diseases.

Gandhi, it appears, was ahead of his time and may be appropriately called modern India's first nutritionist. The legacy of the Father of the Nation must continue through his simple earthy wisdom on diet and good health.

Some of the key tips from Gandhi's nutrition philosophy are:

**EAT TO LIVE:** He believed that food should be taken as a matter of duty to sustain the body and not for satisfaction of the palate. He advocated portion control and abstinence from indulgent foods.

**RAW IS GOOD:** He believed that all foods are richer if taken close to their natural state. He often said excessive cooking on fire leads to nutritional losses and recommended eating unfired foods.

**EAT MORE GREENS:** Gandhi ji believed in a vegetarian, whole plant-based diet. He recommended everyday consumption of seasonal fruits and green vegetables.

**WHOLE GRAIN GOODNESS:** He was a strong believer in the nutritional power of whole grain and said "the richest part of wheat is contained in its bran".

**CHEWING IS ESSENTIAL:** He strongly recommended chewing food till it is finely pulverized and dissolves in the mouth. According to him, well-masticated food moistened by saliva results in better digestion and, therefore, less food can provide the energy needed by the body.

*Author is a clinical nutritionist and founder of www.theweightmonitor.com and Whole Foods India*



GOLD

₹38,564



RUPEE

₹70.56



OIL

\$63.61



SILVER

₹46,384

\*Indian basket as on September 25, 2019

International market data till 1900 GMT

SECTOR WATCH  
PHARMACEUTICALSRanitidine fallout:  
Firms choose to  
wait and watch;  
Torrent halts salePRABHA RAGHAVAN  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

WHILE REGULATORS around the world continue to look into concerns over potential cancer-causing substances contaminating popular acidity medicine ranitidine, more companies selling the drug in India have decided to tread with caution. JB Chemicals – which is testing its 'Rantac' and 'Rantac-OD' – plans to take a final call on sales of its products "once the results are out", said the company's president, Pranabh Mody. The results are expected next week, he said.

Torrent Pharmaceuticals, on the other hand, has decided to halt sales of its 'Ranitac' in the country while it looks into the safety issues raised. "We have initiated a detailed assessment of the product and till such time we have stopped the sales of this product," a spokesperson for Torrent told *The Indian Express*.

Rantac is the third largest ranitidine brand in India by sales, while Ranitac is the fifth largest. Ranitidine is a nearly Rs 690 crore market in the country, as per pharmaceutical market research firm AIOCD Awacs PharmaTrac. The latest developments come after announcements that Dr Reddy's and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) were globally suspending the distribution and sales of their ranitidine products.

GSK's ranitidine was one of eight brands flagged by Singapore's Health Sciences Authority on September 16 for containing trace amounts of a nitrosamine impurity, N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) "above the internationally acceptable level." GSK sells its ranitidine under the brand name Zinetac in India.

NDMA, an environmental contaminant found in water and foods, has been classified by the International Agency for Research on

Cancer as 'probably carcinogenic to humans', meaning it has the potential to cause cancer.

The issue with the contamination was first raised by the United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA). On September 13, the US regulator stated in a release that it had learned that some ranitidine medicines contained "low levels" of NDMA and it was evaluating whether the substance was present in the drugs at levels that posed a risk to patients.

The US FDA has also not called for individuals to stop taking ranitidine at this time.

"Although NDMA may cause harm in large amounts, the levels the FDA is finding in ranitidine from preliminary tests barely exceed amounts you might expect to find in common foods," the watchdog said.

On Monday, India's drug regulatory body the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) wrote to state regulators asking them to direct ranitidine active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) manufacturers to "verify their products and take appropriate measures to ensure patient safety."

Like the US FDA, CDSCO has so far not called for any halting of supplies or recalls, which means the products can continue to be marketed in the country. APIs are the ingredients that give a medicine its therapeutic effect. As per industry sources, most of the world's supply of the ranitidine API comes from two Indian firms: Saraca Laboratories and SMS Lifesciences.

SMS is evaluating its ranitidine to ensure it is "void" of this impurity or that the NDMA is "within permissible limits." According to GSK, the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines (EDQM) has suspended Saraca's certificate of suitability for its ranitidine API "with immediate effect."

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## Strides suspends ranitidine sales in US; shares fall 8%

**New Delhi:** Shares of Strides PharmaScience on Friday tumbled 8 per cent after the company said it has suspended sales of ulcer-treating tablet ranitidine in the US following the US FDA finding contamination in some of such medicines.

The scrip tanked 7.43 per cent to close at Rs 304.20 on the BSE. During the day, it dropped 9.60 per cent to Rs 297.05 – its

52-week low. On the National Stock Exchange, it cracked 7.94 per cent to close at Rs 302.60.

Strides Pharma Science Friday said it has suspended sales of ulcer-treating tablet ranitidine in the US following the US FDA finding contamination in some of such medicines with potentially cancer-causing impurities, N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA). PTI

Officers of the rank of

Strides suspends ranitidine sales in US; shares fall 8%

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ment servants with a view to

ascertain whether they should

be retained in service or re-

ired from service in public in-

terest.

As per these instructions,

the cases of government ser-

vants covered by Fundamen-

tal Rule 56(j), 56(1) or Rule 48(1)

(b) of Central Civil Services

(Pension) Rules, 1972 should

be reviewed six months be-

fore they attain the age of 50-55

years, in cases covered by

Fundamental Rule 56(j) and on

completion of 30 years of qual-

ifying service under

Fundamental Rule 56(1) or Rule

48 of Central Civil Services

(Pension) Rules, 1972.

While the bank officials main-

tain no fraud has been com-

mitted, another depositor Ranjan-

ka, a domestic maid, said she

has two children to look after and

has entire money in bank. "The

bank is giving no answer about

what will happen to my fixed de-

posit," she said.

## PMC Bank exposure to HDIL is ₹2.5K cr, almost 30% of the total loan book

TABASSUM  
BARNAGARWALA  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 27

FOUR DAYS after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) barred Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank from routine banking activities, the bank's suspended managing director Joy Thomas Friday admitted the bank had extended Rs 2,500 crore loans – almost 30 percent of its total loan portfolio of Rs 8,383 crore – to Housing Development Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL) over several years.

Though these loans turned non-performing assets, or bad loans, the bank apparently did not disclose the exposure to the RBI for the last seven years fearing it "will affect the bank's growth".

PMC Bank was put under restrictions under Section 35(A) of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, for under-reporting of bad loans accounted by the HDIL group. The latest loan was in August of Rs 96.5 crore to HDIL's Vice Chairman and MD Sarang Wadhawan despite the group being declared a defaulter.

To ensure that payments are made on time, the Expenditure Secretary said that the Finance Ministry is preparing a mechanism by which payments will happen automatically without push from the officers and this will become fully operational in few months.

NO DISCLOSURE OF  
NPAs FOR 7 YEARS

As per RBI norms, PMC Bank can lend up to 15 percent of its total capital to a single borrower.

RBI officials had visited bank on Sept 20

was not because borrower (HDIL) will run away or not return the money, but because of the present market situation as a whole," Thomas said. The bank has been engaged with HDIL group since 1989. Thomas claims the decision of loans was taken by central branch, not the board of directors.

"Instead of giving us a resolution or discussing with the board, the RBI did not give us time and suspended the board and appointed the administrator. This has caused problems for depositors and bank. We were maintaining the required reserve," he said.

On Thursday, RBI extended relaxations to PMC account holders to withdraw Rs 10,000. The bank's suspended MD said the bank may have made a technically wrong decision, but the decision was not taken to jeopardise the bank or its depositors. The bank, spread over five states, has 137 branches. Thomas joined the bank in 1987 when PMC was a single unit bank with Rs 40 lakh in deposits.

With the current restrictions, several account holders, especially those regularly depositing in the bank, have faced issues. "I don't know how I will run my house with Rs 1,000. Despite having money in my account I have to go around borrowing money," said Govandi resident Abdul Rehman, who works as lighting technician on production sets. Rehman stood from 10 am till 7 pm outside the bank's Chembur branch on Tuesday to break his two FDs of Rs 1.5 lakh and Rs 50,000. On Wednesday he finally withdrew Rs 1,000 to buy grocery for home.

While the bank officials maintain no fraud has been committed, another depositor Ranjanika, a domestic maid, said she has two children to look after and has entire money in bank. "The bank is giving no answer about what will happen to my fixed deposit," she said.

"The reason we went to RBI

## PE investment in India rises 59% in August'

Private equity (PE) investments in India stood at \$2.11 billion in August, a sharp increase of 59% from the year-ago month, according to Grant Thornton's monthly PE Dealtracker for August 2019

**08** Number of high-value investment of and above \$100 million each recorded in August

**3%** Rise in PE deals in terms of volume, i.e. from 67 in August 2018 to 69 this August

**2.6X** Fall in investment values in August compared to July 2019, with a marginal 3 per cent fall in volumes

**68%** Share of startup sector in terms

of volume of PE deals

**Major areas of investment in startup sector:**

■ Fintech

■ Data analytics and artificial intelligence

■ Retail and discovery platforms

**Biggest PE investment deal in August:**

GIC's investment of \$622 million in IRB Infrastructure's BOT assets

**million each:**

■ Infrastructure

■ Startups

■ E-commerce

■ IT, Manufacturing

■ Real estate

**Major sectors with investments of over \$100**

**\$1.33 bn**

Worth of PE investment in India, i.e. about Rs 9,300 crore, in August 2018

... active policy stimulus will be the need of the hour to support deal activity in the face of adverse macro

## MEETING CHAIRED BY RBI GOVERNOR

## FSDC panel deliberates on frauds, early warning signals

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE SUB-COMMITTEE of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC), which met here on Friday, discussed measures to strengthen the systems against frauds and revisit the framework for early warning signals.

The meeting, chaired by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, also discussed measures to promote interest and competition in the stressed asset markets, enhancing the scope of Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) to more effectively monitor group exposures, issues relating to credit rating agencies and audit quality.

The chiefs of regulatory agen-

The Sub-Committee reviewed major developments in the global and domestic economy as well as financial markets that impinge on financial stability

cies including Sebi Chairman Ajay Tyagi, IRDAI Chairman SC Khunti, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) Chairperson MS Sahoo, Injeti Srinivas, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Atanu Chakraborty, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Krishnamurthy Subramanian, Chief Economic Adviser attended the meeting.

The Sub-Committee reviewed the major developments in the global and the domestic economy as well as financial markets that impinge on the financial stability.

In its Annual Report released last month, the RBI said the banking sector reported 6,801 frauds involving Rs 71,542.93 crore till 2018-19, as against 5,916 cases involving Rs 41,167.04 crore reported till 2017-18.

Among bank groups, public sector banks reported 3,766 cases of frauds worth Rs 64,509.43 crore, as against 2,885 cases involving Rs 38,260.8 crore. The number of cases of frauds reported by banks increased by 15 per cent in 2018-19 on a year-on-year basis, with the amount in-

volved rising by 73.8 per cent, though mostly related to occurrences in earlier years.

The average lag between the date of occurrence and its detection by banks was 22 months. The average lag for large frauds — Rs 100 crore and above — amounting to Rs 52,200 crore reported during 2018-19 was 55 months. Among bank groups, PSU banks, which constitute the largest market share in bank lending, have accounted for the bulk of frauds reported in 2018-19. It was followed by private sector banks and foreign banks, the RBI said in its Annual Report for 2018-19. Sebi had expanded its probe into the role of credit rating agencies after a forensic audit flagged cases of misconduct by them in rating IL&amp;FS group firms.

## ALLEGED VIOLATIONS BY INDIABULLS HOUSING

## Delhi HC seeks response of govt, RBI and company

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE DELHI High Court Friday sought response of the central government, the RBI and Indiabulls on a PIL by an NGO for a through and time-bound SIT investigation into alleged illegalities, violations and siphoning by Indiabulls Housing Finance's promoters.

A Bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar issued a notice to Sebi, the National Housing Bank, the Serious Fraud Investigation Office, the Registrar

of Companies and the founder-chairman of Indiabulls and sought their replies by the next date of hearing, December 13.

The NGO, Citizens Whistle Blower Forum, claimed that IBHL promoters and their various group firms and arms had been advancing dubious loans to companies owned by large corporates.

The contention was opposed by IBHL's counsel, who said, "Which fool will give an unsecured loan of Rs 4,600 crore?"

He said that all money given on loan was properly secured and more than Rs 3,000 crore has been paid back to it.

## AVIATION CASE

## ED can now legally take possession of Holiday Inn Hotel

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate (ED) can now legally take possession of Holiday Inn Hotel located at Aerocity in New Delhi, following confirmation of its attachment orders for the hotel.

The Adjudicating Authority under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act has confirmed the provisional attachment of the hotel carried out by ED in March in connection with its probe against corporate lobbyist Deepak Talwar in the Air India case.

"The ED had provisionally attached property, Hotel Holiday Inn located in Aerocity, New Delhi on 28.03.2019 to the extent of Rs

127.69 crore being proceeds of crime in a money-laundering case. The said Provisional Attachment Order has subsequently been confirmed by the Hon'ble PMLA Adjudicating Authority vide order dated 19.09.2019," the ED said on Friday in a statement.

The ED had attached the hotel saying it had been bought with money allegedly laundered by Talwar. This money was alleged to be kickbacks received in deals allegedly brokered by Talwar between Air India and foreign aircraft manufacturers.

The hotel would have the option of challenging the decision of the adjudicating authority in the high court to prevent ED from taking possession of the hotel.

## Corrigendum

Corrigendum No. 1 dated 28.09.2019 against Advt No. RT/08/2019 dated 14/09/2019

for the post DGM (HMBP)

The number of vacancies is increased from 01 (one) to 02 (two) for the post of DGM (HMBP).

Last date to receive the applications for this post is extended upto - 11.10.2019 (Friday)

Note: For details of the above and any further modification/ date extension, please visit our

website: <http://www.hccltd.com>

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CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY

APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, HONOURS



## AWARD-KRCL

Second prize of Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar Shield has been awarded to the KRCL for implementation of Official Language during the year 2018-19. This Prestigious Shield has been received by S Gupta, CMD, KRCL from Amit Shah, Home Minister.



## AWARD-HIL

Dr SP Mohanty, CMD of HIL received the prestigious 'Rajbhasha Award' (Shield) from Home Minister, Amit Shah, for best implementation of Official Language Hindi under the Kirti Puraskar Scheme of D/o Official Language.



## AWARD-BANK OF BARODA

Bank of Baroda, was recently awarded with the first prize under Rajbhasha Kirti Award for the year 2018-19 under 'B' linguistic region. The award was facilitated by the Union Minister of Home Affairs Amit Shah to Shanti Lal Jain, ED, Bank of Baroda.



## AWARD-ITPO

Nitin Gadkari, M/o MSME & Transport addresses at the Award presentation ceremony of the 5th India International Footwear Fair at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi recently. ITPO in association with CIFI, the fair was concluded with a successful note.



## VISIT-SCOPE

MoH & P&PA, AR Meghwal was welcomed by A Sobi, DG, SCOPE during his visit to SCOPE's headquarters at SCOPE Complex, New Delhi. Sobi apprised him about SCOPE's activities, recent initiatives taken by it and the future plans.



## MEETING-NR

TP Singh, GM, NR held a meeting with the Ministers/MPs of constituencies that come under the jurisdiction of Delhi Divisions in New Delhi recently. This is in accordance with the directives given by M/o Railways, Piyush Goyal.



## CAMPAIGN-INDIANOIL

For a Pre Delivery Check of the LPG cylinder, IOCL has launched a massive campaign in Delhi. Messages about PDC of LPG Cylinders will be displayed on 100 DTC buses for 30 days for reaching out to LPG consumers.



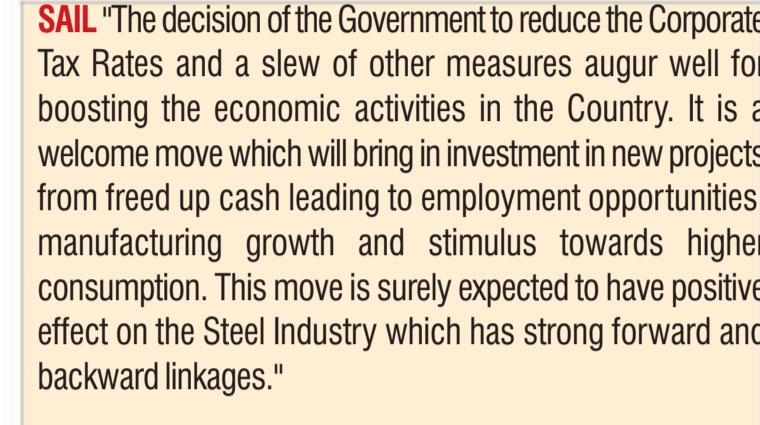
## AWARENESS-DFCCIL

DFCCIL is spreading the message of awareness to the public at large about trial run of trains on DFC tracks between Eastern DFCs 194 km Khurja - Bhadon section. Street Plays (NukkadNataks) are being organised at Schools etc.



## NUKKAD NATAK-RVNL

While observing the Swachhta Pakhwada (16.9.19 to 30.9.19) as a part of "Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat" initiative of Indian Railways, RVNL organised a nukkad natak in its premises recently to create awareness in its employees.

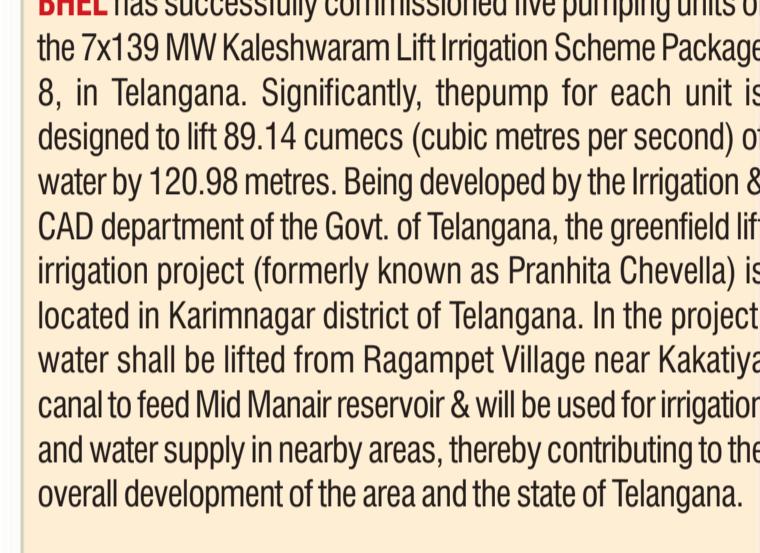


## SAIL

"The decision of the Government to reduce the Corporate Tax Rates and a slew of other measures augur well for boosting the economic activities in the Country. It is a welcome move which will bring in investment in new projects from freed up cash leading to employment opportunities, manufacturing growth and stimulus towards higher consumption. This move is surely expected to have positive effect on the Steel Industry which has strong forward and backward linkages."

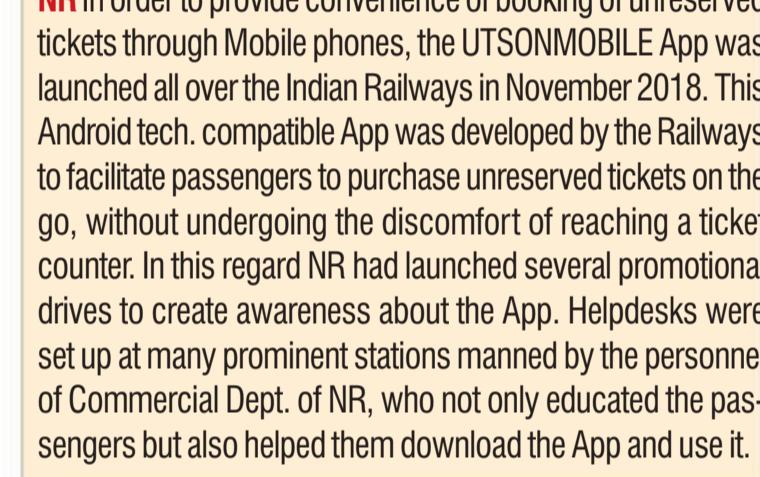
## SCOPE

welcomes the announcement by Finance Minister to boost the Indian economy through various measures including reduction of Corporate tax rate and expanding list of CSR activities. Recent past has seen a series of progressive measures by government to ring positivity in the economy. SCOPE, the apex body of public sector enterprises, believes that the measure announced by the Government in terms of reduction in corporate tax rate is also likely to encourage investments in Make in India particularly in the manufacturing sector. This would lead to increased economic activity thereby creating employment opportunities.



## BHEL

has successfully commissioned five pumping units of the 7x139 MW Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme Package 8, in Telangana. Significantly, the pump for each unit is designed to lift 89.14 cumecs (cubic metres per second) of water by 120.98 metres. Being developed by the Irrigation & CAD department of the Govt. of Telangana, the greenfield lift irrigation project (formerly known as Pranhita Chevella) is located in Karimnagar district of Telangana. In the project, water shall be lifted from Ragampti Village near Kakatiya canal to feed Mid Manair reservoir & will be used for irrigation and water supply in nearby areas, thereby contributing to the overall development of the area and the state of Telangana.



## NR

in order to provide convenience of booking of unreserved tickets through Mobile phones, the UTSONMOBILE App was launched all over the Indian Railways in November 2018. This Android tech. compatible App was developed by the Railways to facilitate passengers to purchase unreserved tickets on the go, without undergoing the discomfort of reaching a ticket counter. In this regard NR had launched several promotional drives to create awareness about the App. Helpdesks were set up at many prominent stations manned by the personnel of Commercial Dept. of NR, who not only educated the passengers but also helped them download the App and use it.



## AGM-NHPC

Balraj Joshi, CMD, NHPC along with Director (Projects), Director (Personnel), Director (Fin.), Dir. (Technical), Independent Directors & Company Secretary, NHPC at the 43rd AGM of NHPC held at Faridabad on 23rd September 2019



## AGM-GRSE

The 103rd AGM of GRSE was held recently in Kolkata. Commenting on the outcome of the AGM, Rear Admiral VK Saxena, IN (Retd.), CMD, GRSE, stated this AGM had a very special significance as it was GRSE's first AGM.



## VIGILANCE AWARENESS-PNB

In order to promote Vigilance Awareness and strengthening the preventive vigilance mechanism, a function was held at PNB Corporate Office, Dwarka, New Delhi. The ceremony was chaired by the CVC, S Kumar.



## MOU-NTPC

NTPC signed a MoU with the Himachal Pradesh government to set up two hydro projects totaling 520 MW in the state. The MoU was signed by P Saxena, Prin Secy (Energy), HP and AK Gupta, Dir (Comm) NTPC Ltd.



## MOU-NHPC

NTPC signed a MoU with the Himachal Pradesh government to set up two hydro projects totaling 520 MW in the state. The MoU was signed by P Saxena, Prin Secy (Energy), HP and AK Gupta, Dir (Comm) NTPC Ltd.



## MOU-NHPC

MoU was signed for execution of 449 MW Dugar HE Project located in Chamba District between NHPC & Govt. of Himachal Pradesh. The MoU was signed by B Joshi, CMD, NHPC & Prin Secy Energy, HP at Shimla.



## VISIT-GRSE

CMD, GRSE, Rear Admiral VK Saxena, IN (Retd.), visited the under construction Lake Town - Salt Lake Portable Steel Bridge today for final inspection before handing it over to the concerned authorities shortly.

EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, LAUNCHES, CSR INITIATIVES, APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)	
Name of work Provision of Railnet facility at ELS/GZB and speed enhancement of Railnet at ETD/GZB.	
App. Cost of the work (₹) ₹ 29,19,332.10/- only	
Tender Document fee (₹) ₹ 3,540/- only	
Earnest Money Deposit(₹) ₹ 58,400/- only	
Address of the office Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-I, Northern Railway, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Annexe-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender 23.10.2019 up to 15.00 hrs	
Website particular & notice board location See the Northern Railway website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Notice board at S&T branch, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.	
Tender No. 558-Sig-16-Tele-OT-911 Dated: 26.09.2019 3116/19	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

No. 4048 Date: 27.09.2019

## PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY &amp; SEWERAGE BOARD

e-TENDER NOTICE NO. 67/PWSSD-2/BTI DATE: 27.09.2019

On the behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Water Supply &amp; Sewerage Board, Chandigarh. The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply &amp; Sewerage Board Division-2, Bathinda invites Bids from Eligible Bidders for the Project/Work detailed in the following Table. The Bidder may submit Bids for any or all the following Project/Works.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of Tendering Processing Fee (Rs.)	Period Completion	Approx. Value of the Project/ Work (In Lacs)
1.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme of Balance Distribution System and Raising Main Works at Bathinda Town (Under AMRUT)	16.29	1000/- Processing Fees 5000/- Taxes	12 Months	1629.45 Lacs

## Important Dates:-

1. Last Date and Time for Online Submission of Bid shall be 24.10.2019 at 05.00 P.M.

2. Date and Time of Opening of 25.10.2019 at 11.00 A.M.

3. Pre-Bid Meeting (O/o SE PWSSC, Bathinda), 15.10.2019 at 03.00 P.M.

\*For terms and conditions refer to website: [https://eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in).

Note:- Corrigendum if any will be issued on website only.

D-6744 Pb. W/S & Sew. Division No. 2, Bathinda.

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

## E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE/EMU/GZB for and on behalf of President of India, Invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work:

1. N.I.T. No.	232-Elect-EMU-WC-03-19-20
2. Name of the Work	Overhauling of Carriage fans fitted with EMU/EMU coaches
3. Tender Cost	Rs. 3540.00 (online payment mode available on IREPS website)
4. Approximate cost	Rs. 2815084.80 (Rupees Twenty eight lakh fifteen thousand eighty four and paisa eighty only)
5. Earnest Money	Rs. 56300.00 (online payment mode available on IREPS website)
6. Completion period	24 months
7. Validity of offer	45 days
8. Date and time from tender advertised on IREPS website	26.09.2019 (16.46 Hrs.)
9. Date and time from tender submission start and end	18.10.2019 to 01.11.2019 (15:00 Hrs.)
10. Tender closing Date & Time	01.11.2019 (15:00 Hrs.)
11. Date & Time of tender Opening (Immediately when tender submission ends)	01.11.2019 (15:00 Hrs.)

Note: 1. All participant Tenderer/Tenderers will submit their requisite documents along with their tender offer. "No post tender correspondence for submission of additional document shall be entertained after opening of the Technical & Commercial offer. Even su-mo post tender letters of the tenders shall be treated as null & void". Note: 2. Duplicate documents should not be enclosed/uploaded.

Tender Notice is available on website of [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

No.: 232-Elect-EMU-WC-03-19-20 Date : 27.09.2019 3128/19

## SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



## ANDU

General Public is hereby informed that one Female **Named:** Andu, **W/o:** Raju, **R/o:** T-51 Bheel Basti Road No. 20, Baljeet Nagar, New Delhi-110008, **Age:** 24 Years, **Height:** 5'4", **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Light Pink Colour Lahenga Choli and Hawai Chappal in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 20.09.2019 from the area of PS Patel Nagar, New Delhi. In this regard DD No. 127-A dated 21.09.2019 has been lodged at PS. Patel Nagar, New Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped lady please inform the undersigned.

Web-site : [cbi.nic.in](http://cbi.nic.in)  
E-Mail ID: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-24368639  
DP/6604/CD/19



## P.S. Ashok Vihar, Delhi

General public is here by informed that the Girl **Named:** Radha Kumari, **D/o:** Sh. Laxman Mandal, **R/o:** WP-437, Wazirpur, Ashok Vihar, Delhi, **Age:** 19 years 6 Months, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** White top and black sandal in feet, has been missing since 20.08.2019 from the jurisdiction of PS. Ashok Vihar, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 32-A dated 23.08.2019 has been lodged at PS. Ashok Vihar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this Girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this Girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail



**HUSTLERS** ★★★  
 Director: Lorene Scafaria Cast: Jennifer Lopez, Constance Wu, Julia Stiles, Keke Palmer, Lili Reinhart

# Catch me if You Can

SHALINI LANGER

THERE IS a moment in *Hustlers* when Lopez, her golden-brown skin bathed in neon lights, sheathed in a tiny sequinned G-string and a giant fur coat, enjoying a leisurely smoke on the roof of a strip club, opens the folds of her jacket to nestle a new girl in. That brief scene, warm and hot, all at the same time, could have been this film. About women who have bent the rules of the game their way, while holding each other up.

The clip between Lopez's Ramona and Wu's Destiny slips in while we are still breathless from the exhilaration of watching Lopez do a turn around a strip pole. It's a bold and uninhibited performance as Ramona swirls, climbs, slides, twirls and almost flies around that steel, while the jaws of the audience drop and the dollars pour in. This role of a sexy performer is perfect for the actor with undeniable charisma, and Lopez owns *Hustlers* from that moment.

But the film is too timid to return the generosity. Inspired by a *New York Magazine* article about a group of strippers who managed to con Wall Street guys for a couple of years running, this film written and directed by Scafaria wants its women to be "cons" but for all the "right" reasons — a child to support, an ailing grandmother, an imprisoned fiancée, unsupportive parents. Nothing wrong with having them aspire for furs, pearls and diamonds, but Louboutins really do not go well with Lehmann Brothers if your message is "greed is bad", especially of the Wall Street kind.

The point keeps being emphasised, off and on, as we follow essentially Destiny from the time she takes her first hesitant steps into that strip club, puts up with demands of men moulded seemingly out of the same clay, sees her money dwindle to almost nothing as she shares the proceeds with those who run



the club, to when Ramona takes her under her wing and her fortunes change. The moment of crisis in the film is the 2008 market collapse, leaving their customers without cash to throw around, and requiring the girls to re-invent. A single mother by then, Destiny eventually falls in with Ramona's all-girls scheme of fleecing (really stupid) men by slipping drugs into their drinks and maxing out their credit cards. They gamble that the men won't go to police and, for the longest part, they don't.

While *Hustlers* is focused on the women, particularly behind the scenes at the strip club, it's refreshing. The women are there with all their skin, breasts, buttocks, smarts and warts, showing, bound together by an unjudgmental eye and an easy camaraderie. While Cardie B shows up, even here, in her striking presence, Lopez is the embodiment of the energy, aspiration and confidence in that room.

When the story progresses, to the schemes and the scammed men, a journalist putting the story together, and the women

reeling in money but also trying to explain it away as a necessary evil, it starts becoming repetitive and loses its verve. Having Destiny at the centre of it all doesn't help. While Wu (*Crazy Rich Asians*) is good, a film like *Hustlers* requires a Ramona to shine. Plus, she has the film's best line, whatever the fuzzy politics behind it: "This whole country is a strip club. There are people tossing money and people doing the dance."

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# Spy Games and Shadow Play

BARD OF BLOOD (Netflix)

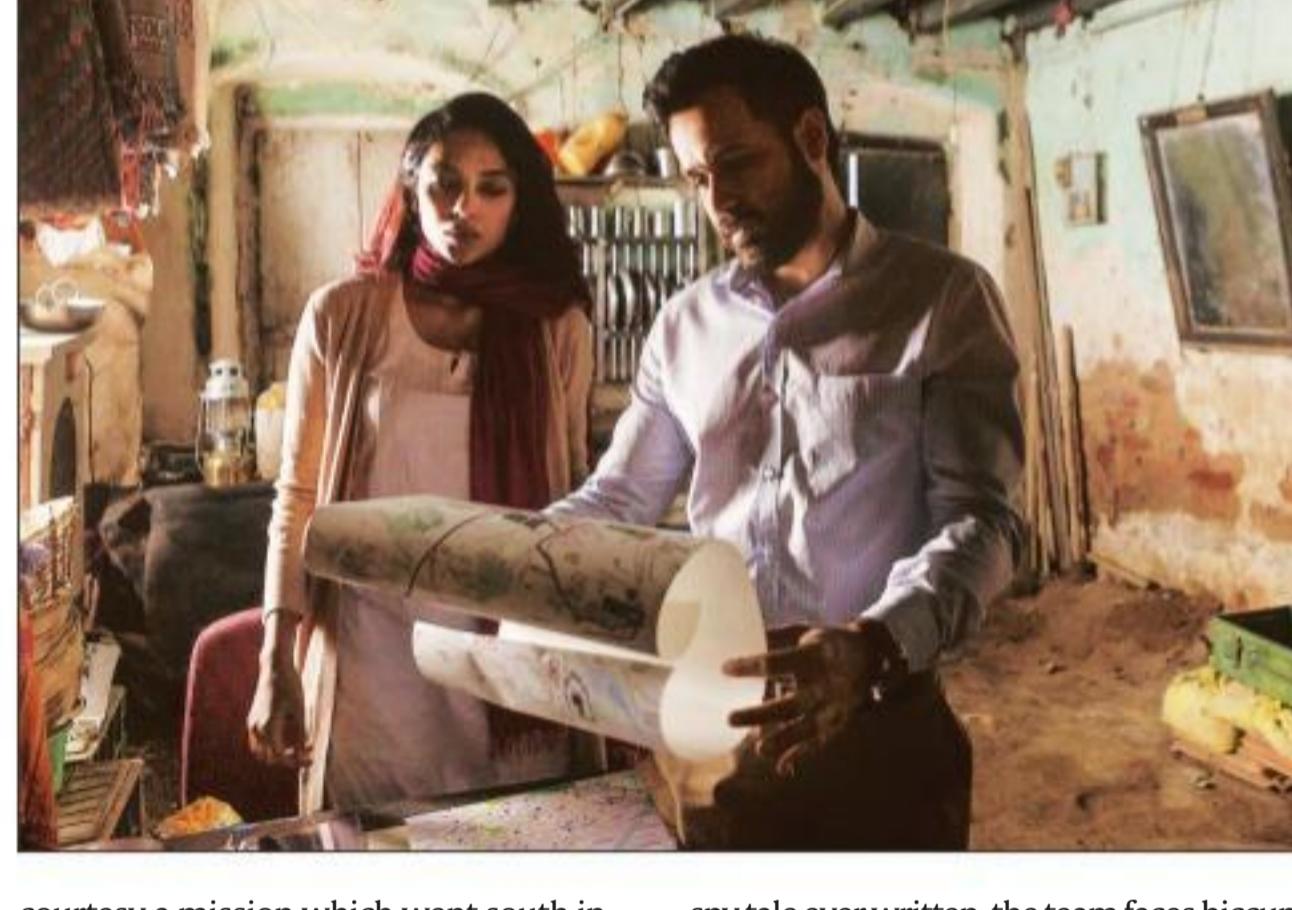
★★★

Director: Ribhu Dasgupta  
 Cast: Emraan Hashmi, Viineet Kumar Singh and Sobhita Dhulipala

EKTA MALIK

THE ONE thing that you are sure to do after watching the first few episodes of Netflix's latest mega offering *Bard of Blood*, is to Google, 'where was *Bard of Blood* shot?' Alternatively you might type in Balochistan. Much of the show is set there, and while the makers, including producer Shah Rukh Khan, couldn't make it across the border to shoot, our own dry, arid terrains of Leh, Ladakh and Rajasthan make for a passably stunning Balochistan. So first things first, *Bard of Blood* is a mega-budget web series, based on the eponymous 2015 book written by Bilal Siddiqi. The book, which was supremely detailed, has been crunched to befit a screenplay, a few elements have been highlighted and the lead characters made more dramatic. The show, directed by Ribhu Dasgupta, has as its core, Kabir Anand (Emraan Hashmi), a former agent of the Indian secret service who has been roped in for an off-the-books mission by his former mentor and father figure, Sadiq Sir (Rajit Kapoor). The mission at hand is to cross the border and rescue four Indian operatives captured by the Taliban. Sounds simple enough. And for those who have followed Indian spy lore and spy narratives on screen, you know everything is possible.

*Bard of Blood*, while following a typical, formulaic, espionage template, tried to go for the human-heavy-on-emotion angle. We discover that relations between the former mentor/father figure and Anand have soured,



courtesy a mission which went south in — you guessed it — Balochistan. No one trusts anyone. Anand has his own guilt to deal with, as he lost a dear friend and partner in the ill-fated mission in Balochistan. He now teaches English literature at a college in Mumbai. Of course, we are not surprised when the able student is ready to go on a rogue mission at the bidding of his teacher. He is almost relieved to have an analyst — Isha Khanna (Sobhita Dhulipala), who has never had any prior field experience to come along for the ride. The more, the merrier, and to complete the trifecta, enter Veer Singh (Viineet Kumar Singh), a sleeper Indian agent who moonlights as an opium smuggler on the Pak-Afghan border. So far, so good.

But as the show progresses, the narrative falls prey to contrived writing and convenient plot devices. Keeping in tune with every

spy tale ever written, the team faces hiccups and setbacks, and are often lagging behind in the cat-and-mouse game. Intel is gathered, information bartered, and an ex-flame appears in the nick of time. Simultaneously, we are also thrown into the deep end of international geopolitics. The Taliban and their nexus with the Pakistani military and intelligence services, the insurgency in Balochistan etc, all these are conveniently used to further the narrative, but they hold little depth. Spanning seven episodes, the series was meant to be slow burn, but it often drags. Melodramatic dialogues and cumbersome lines don't do justice to the stellar cinematography. Lines like "Maut ki baat mat karo mujhse, maine maut ko bahut kareeb se dekha hai", don't really work today and neither does, "To bury my past once and for all". Then there is an angle of personal vendetta and guilt. At times

Many of the big ticket items in the streaming world work, because of the level of emotional attachment that the audience have with the characters, both big and small. Here, apart from Anand, no one else has even a trace of a backstory. We know Veer's father has Alzheimer's, and that Isha Mathur lives with her mother. But, what else? Come on, there were seven, fifty-minute-long episodes. Surely a minute each for Khanna and Singh could have gone a long way. Singh, who is a brilliant actor and we hope to see him more, is a victim of lazy writing. An entire scene in the show is a frame by frame copy of the *Murraha* segment of *Bombay Talkies* (2013), directed by Anurag Kashyap. As for Dhulipala, she has adapted well to the non-glam avatar after her earlier appearance in the super dressy *Made in Heaven*.

A special note to the makers: not all terrorists, member of the Taliban and men that side of border wear *surma* or *kohl*. Especially this dark, intense as night, non-smudge *kohl*, which stays put in the most violent of action sequences. And what's with the weird Afghani/Pakistani/Baloch/Pashto accent? It all sounds like the actors were trained using the old VHS tapes of *Khuda Gawah*.

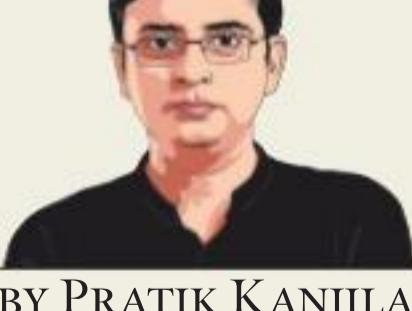
We have not had many great spy stories in Hindi cinema, barring examples of the pioneering *Ankhon* (1958) and the slick *Jewel Thief* (1969). What has followed are offerings like *Agent Vinod*, *Ek Tha Tiger* and its sequel and a forgettable *Dhishoom*. The mediocre streak remains unbroken with *Bard of Blood*. Watch it for the surroundings, shot so well that you can almost taste the brown sand, because honestly, your chance to make it across the border in the current political climate is slim.

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## BREAKING DOWN NEWS

# Fighting Words

Imran Khan's tweet on a counter-narrative to Islamophobia freaks out the Twitter AI while climate activist Greta Thunberg inspires and provokes in equal measure



BY PRATIK KANJILAL

AT THE SAARC meet in New York on Thursday, while all eyes were on Pakistan foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi's refusal to share space, time and breathable air with his Indian counterpart, a more fruitful meeting was in progress elsewhere in the city. ARY News and Dawn, among other Pakistani media, reported on a trilateral meet between Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan, Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Malaysian prime minister

Mahathir Mohamad, to develop a counter-narrative to Islamophobia. The three countries will jointly promote a TV channel and films to set the record straight.

Khan tweeted: "President Erdogan, PM Mahatir (sic) and myself had a meeting today in which we decided our 3 countries would jointly start an English language channel dedicated to confronting the challenges posed by Islamophobia and setting the record straight on our great religion — Islam." Another propaganda channel. But why not? Here in India, Mrs Gandhi created one to perpetuate her rule. The BJP launched one only for the duration of the last general election. The Kremlin has its own. This is the old normal.

And perhaps there is a need for a counter-narrative, because Khan's tweet freaked out the Twitter AI. It hustled to do its stuff, blanking out the tweet and flagging it: "This media may contain sensitive material." Such hyper-

sensitivity reflects either its programmers' prejudices, or it has learned far too much from the data in the angry little boi that social media has become, where 'Islam' and 'Islamophobia' can be read as fighting words.

Fighting words were also heard last week from climate activist Greta Thunberg in a Congressional hearing in the US. Then, the world applauded her for her maturity in drawing attention to what climate scientists had to say, rather than what she had to say. But by the middle of this week, it became clear that she had sparked off a global youth movement. *The Guardian* and the BBC were focusing on protests held all over the

world. And the tide turned, with many people, including the environmentally conscious, finding her "annoying". The word was popping up everywhere on social media and in comments on stories accompanied by pictures of Thunberg looking angry.

Crowds have been fickle from the time of the Roman circus, and in the age of politics as spectacle, blowback is normal. A gender spin developed in America, with many believing that Thunberg is threatening because she has stepped out of the gender box. She is 16, but is not being asked by the press whether she likes Gap or H&M. This is apparently scary. The obvious truth is even

Another propaganda channel. But why not? Here in India, Mrs Gandhi created one to perpetuate her rule. The BJP launched one only for the duration of the last general election.

scarier. From the publication of *Silent Spring* in 1962, environmentalism has proclaimed that it works to secure the lives of the children of the future. A child now accuses us, her elders, represented by the political community, of failing her. To be told the blunt truth is generally unnerving, especially when convenient fabrications are the norm.

Those who are tiring of the Thunberg story, rejoice, because it is about to be shamed off the information superhighway. Talk of impeachment is in the air. The blunt truth is finally out, with the public release of the complaint of the whistleblower who has called out President Trump's attempt to use the good offices of the new government in Ukraine to further his chances in elections due next year. Now, the spectre of foreign meddling in America's choice, which had dogged the last election, is out in the open and as CNN reports, the Democrats have little choice but to move for impeachment.

The whistleblower, who appears to be an intelligence officer, had helpfully marked his letter of complaint unclassified "when separated from the attachments" (those would be gripping). He accuses the administration of trying to wipe traces of a July 25 phone call between Trump and Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky (officially,

the world's first comedian to head a nation), in which he sought to offset military aid against a commitment to help investigate his rival Joe Biden and his son Hunter. Meanwhile Michael McFaul, Stanford teacher and Obama's ambassador to Moscow, has posted a picture from his tenure, showing how a head-to-head call happens. Off camera, Obama is on the line with prime minister Dmitry Medvedev, and a bunch of officials and aides in the White House Situation Room are listening in on a speakerphone and taking notes. It illustrates how many officials must be leaned on to conceal the details of a call.

Misuse of office to get your political dirty work done is ample ground for impeachment. But it's only a preliminary step, rather like an FIR being filed by the representatives of the lower House. A trial must follow, conducted by the upper House, giving stiff competition to courtroom dramas. Meanwhile, rumours about an Israeli intelligence company, Saudi Arabia and the Russian mob have surfaced, as media and activists in Ukraine and the Middle East start assembling a timeline of events. The picture will get murkier before it clears.

pratik.kanjilal@expressindia.com



DVD & BLU-RAY

SOUND OF MUSIC

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₹ 699/-



# We are Listening

BULBUL CAN SING

★★★

Director: Rima Das  
 Cast: Arnali Das, Manoranjan Das, Banita Thakuriya, Pakja Begum

SHUBHRA GUPTA

YOUNG BULBUL is like the bird she's named after: chirpy, curious, lively, exploring the many shades of life with her best friends, Bonny and Suman. They — the two girls and boy — are inseparable both in school and after, sharing silly jokes, secrets, sulks, snubs and silences, just like any other teenage gang anywhere in the world. Watching them share physical space, sprawled on a bed or on the ground, limbs carelessly brushing against each other, bound by deep affection not desire, is to see something rare in Indian cinema.

The fact that this trio and their friends and families live in a tiny Assam village, make them a very particular set indeed. Instead of the sterilised malls and multiplexes of their urban counterparts, their playground is their surroundings: fields full of water where you can cast your fishing net, or trail your fingers, trees you can climb, and trunks you can scratch your names in, flowers you can pick from the grass and braid in your hair.

I fell in love with *Village Rockstars* and its youthful characters who didn't 'act' as much as just danced, pranced, splashed across the landscape. *Bulbul Can Sing*, which won the Best Assamese film at the 2019 National Awards, and which can be seen both as a companion piece and as its own film, is more 'performed'. But the naturalness of the actors wins you over. Equally winning is what it leaves you with: growing up is not all fun and games, but there can be rainbows if we go looking.

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# Snowed Under

ABOMINABLE

★

Director: Jill Culton  
 Voices of: Chloe Bennet, Albert Tsai, Tenzing Norgay Trainor, Sarah Paulson

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS notes that *Abominable* is the first female-directed animation feature with a female lead. When a film comes tagged like that, you have your antennae up, because Culton, who became the first female principal director of a big budget, animated feature with *Open Season*, back in 2006, should need no such qualification.

There is another thing that should have made *Abominable* special. The film, produced by Dreamworks and Shanghai-based Pearl Studio, is based in China, with largely Chinese characters. However, nobody says China out loud, the country gets referenced only in a map and in the context of Beijing University, the actors all speak English and have features that could easily pass off as Caucasian, the villain is a generic Hollywood type with generic, sinister MNC agendas, and the only recognisable brand on screen is McDonald's.

There is nothing political about *Abominable* though. A girl called Yi (voiced by 27-year-old Bennet) has secluded herself from her mother and grandmother after her father's death, and does odd jobs of all kinds to rustle up enough money for a trip around China. At nights, she goes up to the terrace to play violin, taught to her by her father. One such night, she meets a terrified Yeti (Izzo) on her terrace, who has es-

caped from a lab where they were planning all kinds of experiments on him. The film is about Yi trying to return Yeti to his home in the Everest, helped by friends Peng (Tsai) and Jin (Trainor), while evil scientist (Paulson) and the aforesaid MNC owner (Izzard) chase them with a team of armed men in armed vehicles.

*Abominable* is often beautiful to look at, as the road to Everest is laid out in all its beauty but little of its harshness. The 'magic' Yeti wields, because of 'its power to talk to nature', is exquisite at times — especially when he gets fields full of yellow flowers to undulate like waves. However, the story itself is flat, predictable and moves inexorably slowly to its end. There is one reason you may want to see *Abominable* though. In a rather clever bit of casting, Trainor who plays Jin is the grandson of Tenzing Norgay, who and Edmund Hillary were the first two men to climb Everest. An ideal Chinese kid who is set for a medical degree, yet obsessed with his looks and selfies, Jin is the cleverest character in the film.

SL

## Weather forces BCCI to reschedule Vijay Hazare matches

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
SEPTEMBER 27

THE INDIAN board has decided to reschedule Vijay Hazare tournament after a few Group A league games were washed out by rain in Bangalore. Many domestic teams had requested rescheduling the lost games on off-days and the board agreed.

Not just Bangalore, but the Group B teams, that are being held in Vadodara, have also been severely hit. The first couple of league games of all teams have been a wash out. BCCI general manager cricket operations Saba Karim said that not only the Bangalore games but all washed-out games will be rescheduled.

"We had a discussion and we are grateful to BCCI, who approved our request. In our meeting with BCCI's KVP Rao with all managers of various states team requested to reschedule washed out games so that teams can get a chance to play. Since the time we landed, there has been rain, we didn't get decent practice session too," Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) manager Armaan Mallik told The Indian Express.

"We will have games on rest days and revise schedule has been sent, the matches will be now played till October 17. Our intention is that players get as many games possible before the full season begins. It's a such a prestigious tournament after all," Karim said.

Chattisgarh, Hyderabad and Mumbai couldn't play their first two games whereas six other teams—Karnataka, Andhra, Saurashtra, Kerala, Goa and Jharkhand lost a game each due to rain. Eight games in Plate league too has turned into no-result.

Meanwhile, MCA has requested BCCI to give a chance to each team to play at Chinnaswamy Stadium. At present, the home team Karnataka are playing all their games at Chinnaswamy Stadium.

"We also made a request that each team plays on game at Chinnaswamy Stadium rather than just the home team playing all games at one venue," Mallik said. "Last season during Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy held in Kolkata, Sourav Ganguly had ensured that each team plays at least one game in Eden Gardens. Bengal didn't go by home advantage."

## J&K register big win over Rajasthan

**Jaipur:** Jammu & Kashmir registered a facile 55-run win over host Rajasthan in a Group C match of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Friday. Put in to bat, J&K made 317 for 5 in 50 overs thanks to impressive knocks by Shubham Kharjuria (94) and Shubham Singh Pundir (96 not out). Leggie Rahul Chahar, who recently broke into the Indian T20 side, finished with 2 for 50 in 9 overs while Deepak Chahar went wicketless in 9 overs giving 53 runs.

Rajasthan struggled in the chase and ended up with 262, being dismissed in 49 overs. Captain Mahipal Lomror top scored with 88 while Chetan Bist made a strokeful 72 but the team was always behind the run rate.

In Dehradun, Unmukt Chand hit an unbeaten 80 to help Uttarakhand defeat Assam by seven wickets in a rain-curtailed Plate group match.

PTI

## Diana refuses to take up MCA membership till BCCI elections

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 27

DIANA EDULJI, one of the three members of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrator (COA), has recused herself from taking membership of the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) and the Indian Cricketers Association (ICA) until the BCCI elections get over.

The Indian board had asked all former international and retired domestic cricketers — men and women — to apply for ICA's membership. Then, on Friday, the MCA issued a notice to former international players hailing from its jurisdiction to become a member to get voting rights at the MCA election to be held on October 4.

However, Edulji believes that since she is part of COA, it will unfair if she takes up the membership and voting rights in the MCA and ICA elections.

"I have not filled up any form and will not do it as I am currently a COA member. I thought it will be unfair if I vote in election process of players or in MCA election. That is why I have decided to stay away from it. I will only become a member once the BCCI election is over and our responsibility ends," Edulji told The Indian Express.

As per the Lodha Committee recommendations, each association will have to make its former international cricketers a member with voting rights. Edulji had played 20



Security personnel escort the Pakistani and Sri Lankan teams out of Karachi's National Stadium after the first ODI is abandoned due to rain. AP

## Ex-India manager hints at cover-up to save support staff member in Antigua

Member of travelling party behaved inappropriately with hotel personnel, CEO office kept quiet: Subramaniam

DEVENDRA PANDEY  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 27

FORMER INDIA team manager Sunil Subramaniam has claimed that a member of the support staff was investigated by, among others, the Antigua police for 'behaving inappropriately' with the housekeeping personnel of the team hotel. Subramaniam also lashed out at the BCCI for inaction, saying it was 'beyond belief'. The alleged incident took place during the first Test between India and West Indies in Antigua from August 22 to 26.

Subramaniam, whose stint as the team manager ended after the Caribbean tour, highlighted the issue in an email to the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) on September 25. Subramaniam also alleged that the BCCI hushed up the issue even after the inquiry conducted by the local police, hotel management and an official from the West Indies Cricket Board found the support staff member guilty.

Subramaniam said he was informed about the alleged misconduct by WICB's manager of operations Roland Holder. "Investigation by the Hotel management, Antigua Police, Roland Holder of Cricket West Indies and myself along with the team Security manager and logistics manager did confirm that it was indeed a member of the support staff," he wrote in the email.

He added that the 'inaction of the BCCI on

a matter as grave as this is beyond belief.' "The matter was handled in such a manner that the team and more importantly the concerned member of the team was spared any embarrassment from any entity that would exploit it for obvious reasons," Subramaniam wrote. "I am beginning to wonder if this is some kind of old boys club at the CEO's office that has its own clique to protect or are they dismissive and disdainful about such transgressions in the Indian team?"

Subramaniam was removed as the manager after he was accused of high-handed behaviour with top officials of the Indian High Commission during the tour. He, however, claimed that the support staff member accused of misbehaviour "is still very much a part of the Indian team."

In a subsequent email, however, Subramaniam backed down from allegations made regarding BCCI not taking any action and requested the CoA to 'withdraw the earlier email sent.' "The reference to old boys club in the letter was purely in the context of some members of the support staff in the cricket team who were not doing the work expected out of them. As regards the indiscretion of support staff mentioned, it would be best if he has a word spoken to not to repeat such indiscretions in future. A detailed report as a follow up to the match report will be sent later."

### 'No reason to apologize'

In the email, Subramaniam has also claimed that the Indian team had to skip a

training session in Trinidad as they spent four hours shooting for the government's Swachh Bharat campaign.

Subramaniam was accused of misbehaving with the officials of the Indian high commission in the West Indies. The BCCI had contemplated calling him back midway from the tour, but the CoA let him off with a reprimand after he tendered an unconditional apology.

Subramaniam, however, said in the email that "I have no reason to be apologetic over the issue" and he had done so only to avoid a 'needless controversy in the middle of an already poorly organised tour wherein issues on the teams basic comforts off the field needed to be addressed first."

"Let me set the facts straight. On receipt of a mail on requirement of the Indian Team for the (sic) Swatch Bharat shoot on 10th August..., the shoot which took 4 hours and a practice session was skipped for it, was completed on 13th August. Does any unbiased mind think that the team would have agreed to do that if they did not have my trust and am I really the kind of person to disobey instructions?"

He went on to highlight the logistical problems faced by the team during the tour, saying meals weren't served on time at some locations while the team had to wait for four hours in the lobby of the hotel in Port of Spain. "The hotel in Fort Lauderdale was substandard, no meals were served on a 4 hour chartered flight from Fort Lauderdale to Georgetown, Guyana, missed baggage's on the flight from Georgetown to Port of Spain and the team had to wait 4 hours in the lobby of the hotel at Port of Spain, Trinidad before allotment of 12 rooms which incidentally included rooms for the Captain and the Head Coach," he wrote.

Subramaniam urged the BCCI to appoint a professional logistics manager for the team to avoid such incidents in future. "The role of the current logistics manager is not aligned to industry standards for any professional organisation," he remarked.

Subramaniam wrote:

Subramaniam said he requested the second secretary of the Indian consulate in Trinidad for a written communication from senior BCCI officials to get the team for a shoot. He continued: "Does the BCCI seriously expect team manager to organise the Indian team for such a major off the field event during an overseas tour based on a whatsapp message from an official of the Indian Consulate in Trinidad wherein BCCI's internal administrative functions are casually messaged that 'Mr Vinod Rai has spoken to Virat Kohli' or on an instruction/communication from the BCCI to the team manager?"

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**Now there are three formats, and if Virat is feeling overloaded, maybe they should try somebody else for the T20 format. Rohit has been a very successful captain."**

— YUVRAJ SINGH

## Pak's ten-year wait gets a bit longer as first ODI is rained off in Karachi

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
KARACHI, SEPTEMBER 27

HEAVY RAIN washed out the opening match of Sri Lanka's tour of Pakistan before play began on Friday, disappointing cricket fans who had flocked to the stadium for what was to be the first ODI played on a Karachi pitch in a decade. Teams have been reluctant to visit the cricket-mad country since a deadly militant attack on the Sri Lankan team bus in Lahore in 2009, and Karachi has not hosted a one-day international since then. Since then Pakistan have been forced to play nearly all of their "home" matches in the United Arab Emirates due to security concerns.

Heavy showers began as soon as the teams were whisked into the National Stadium under tight security in the afternoon. The disappointment from spectators was palpable.

Karachi will still host the remaining ODIs on the tour, with Sunday's match rescheduled to Monday to avoid possible rain. The two teams will also play three Twenty20 internationals in Lahore next month.

### Security measures

The latest series is an attempt by Pakistan Cricket Board to bring international cricket back into the country following the 2009 attacks. Zimbabwe were the first team to tour in Pakistan for six years when they played two Twenty20s and three one-day internationals in Lahore in 2015.

That was followed by a World XI tour and home T20 matches against Sri Lanka and the West Indies. For the current tour, Pakistan have put in place stringent security measures normally reserved for heads of state.

All the arrangements are being led by the country's military, with around 2,000 security personnel on alert at the team's hotel and at the ground. But the security guarantee did not stop the withdrawal of several key Sri Lankan players, including regular ODI captain Dimuth Karunaratne as well as former captains Angelo Mathews and Dinesh Chandimal. The tour was also put on hold after the Sri Lankan government received information of a possible terror threat, before an all-clear was issued last week.

### I'd unfinished business: Arthur

Pakistan's former cricket coach Mickey Arthur on Friday defended his comments that linked former captains Wasim Akram and Misbah-ul-Haq to his ousting last month. Arthur caused a stir in Pakistani cricket circles earlier this week after he went into detail about his axing in an interview with ESPNcricinfo's Stump Mic. Following a disappointing World Cup performance, the Pakistan Cricket Board set up a committee including Wasim and Misbah to shape the team's future direction. The committee decided against renewing Arthur's contract, which paved the way for Misbah to be named the country's chief selector and new head coach.

Arthur said he had supported the participation of both Wasim and Misbah on the committee but was disappointed with the decision after placing his trust in them.

Speaking to AFP by phone from Perth, he said, "I was dignified in my comments because I love Pakistan, the players I worked with, spent time with for three years and respect Misbah and Wasim. I felt disappointed because I had some unfinished business to do with the Pakistan team and would have loved to continue."

He had allegedly received one crore from AT Group under the garb of sponsoring Odisha Ranji team and title sponsorship for Odisha Premier League in 2011. For the post of OCA President, Pankaj Lochan Mohanty of Boudh district defeated former OCA treasurer Pradeep Chouhan by six votes.

### Revival group emerges as dominant force in Baroda

In Vadodara, the Revival group bagged three of the five key posts in the elections for the Baroda Cricket Association (BCA) held on Friday. Pranav Amin from the Revival group went on to win the President's post with a margin of over 90 per cent votes, while Sheetal Mehta from the same group bagged the Vice President's post and Ajit Patel secured the Treasurer's post. Meanwhile from the Royal group, Ajit Lele went on to win the post of the secretary and the Parag Patel secured the post of the joint secretary. A total of 1488 votes were cast.

The Royal Group headed by Samarjitsinh Gaekwad had fielded Jatin Vakil, a managing committee member and an advocate as its presidential candidate while the opposition group, the Revival Group headed by industrialist Chirayu Amit had fielded Pranav Amin for the President's post. The last election in BCA was held in 2013, when royal scion Gaekwad had won the president's post but candidates from the Revival group had managed to bag the majority other posts in the managing committee. However, in 2016 Gaekwad was sacked from the president's post during an AGM.



Mohammad Azharuddin. File

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As per the Lodha Committee recommendations, each association will have to make its former international cricketers a member with voting rights. Edulji had played 20

tests and 34 ODIs in a career spanning over 17 years, taking 63 and 46 wickets respectively. Though she represented Railways, Edulji resides in Mumbai. The BCCI has left the onus on international cricketers to choose which association they would prefer to become a voting member of.

It is not the first time Edulji has recused herself. Last year, the former India captain had refused to accept CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award conferred upon her by the BCCI. Edulji, in a statement released shortly after BCCI's announcement of the 2016/17 list of lifetime achievement awardees, said that it won't be appropriate for her to accept the award while she remains a member of the CoA.

"Since I am a member of the Hon'ble Supreme Court appointed committee of administrators of the BCCI, I do not think it is appropriate for me to accept this honour at this juncture. I have discussed my decision with my family, friends and well-wishers who wholeheartedly support my decision not to accept the award during my tenure as a member of the CoA.

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## BRIEFLY

Deepak Punia is  
World No.1

New Delhi: World Championship silver medallist wrestler Deepak Punia has jumped to world number one position in 86kg but Bajrang Punia lost the top rank in the 65kg category in the latest rankings issued by the international federation (UWW). Competing in his maiden senior World Championship, Deepak settled for a silver after an ankle injury forced him to pull out of the final against Iranian great Hasan Yazdani. The 20-year-old now has 82 points, four more than World Champion Yazdani. This year, Deepak had won a silver Yasar Dogu and bronze medals at Asian Championship and at Sassari tournaments. He has been rewarded for his consistent show. However, Bajrang, who went into the World Championship as world number one, dropped to number two spot after managing a bronze. PTI

Gangjee takes lead in  
Japan; Sandhu 6th

Kobe: Defending champion Rahil Gangjee moved into sole lead at the Panasonic Open Golf Championship with a flawless eight-under 63 while Ajeeet Sandhu climbed to tied sixth in Kobe on Friday. Sandhu holed an ace and then parred the next six before snatching a final birdie on way to 66. Viraj Madappa (74-68) at tied 58th also made the cut, while Shiv Kapur (72-71) was one shot off the projected line at even par with some players yet to finish. Khalin Joshi (71-73) and S Chikkarangappa (71-75) missed the cut. As Gangjee went through the day with eight birdies, Sandhu had two birdies against a bogey on front nine and added another birdie on 10th. Then came the ace on 211-yard Par-3 11th hole. Gangjee zoomed to the top with a 63 that took him to a nine-under total and a one-shot lead at the halfway stage at the Higashi Hirono Golf Club. PTI

IOC could relook at  
Russia participation

Doha: IOC president Thomas Bach said that a fresh look might be needed at Russia's participation in next year's Tokyo Olympics after the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) found inconsistencies in data supplied by the country. WADA said on Monday it had opened compliance proceedings against Russia's Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA) after examining a vast bank of historical testing data finally handed over in January following a previous suspension. That meant RUSADA was in danger of being declared non-compliant by WADA, possibly putting increased pressure on the IOC to exclude Russia from the Tokyo Games next year for failing to ensure that its athletes are clean. "RUSADA has served its sanction for what happened... now, what we hear there may be a new situation," Bach told reporters. "So, there has to be a fresh look at this." Bach said he could not comment further while WADA carries out its investigation. "I cannot speculate or comment on the result of what this WADA procedure might be," he added. REUTERS



Jamuna Boro (54kg) will be India's representative in the non-Olympic category at the women's world boxing championships which begins next week. Praveen Khanna

# Peek over the great wall

Indian women boxers gained valuable insight by sparring with the elusive Chinese at a camp in Italy

GAURAV BHATT  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 27

WITH THE upcoming world championships in mind, Chinese women boxers shifted training sessions outside their country for the very first time, opting to take part in a multi-national camp being held in Italy. And a possible look behind the curtains, on how women boxing's biggest powerhouse train, prompted India high-performance director Raffaele Bergamasco to make an impromptu change of plans.

"There were no plans for us to go to Italy. But we only went because an Italian coach who is a friend informed me that the Chinese boxers will be coming in," Bergamasco told The Indian Express, talking about the training camp which was held in Assisi from September 8-22. "This was the first time China were holding a training camp in another country. Even better is the fact that the sparring sessions went well for us, with good performance from the girls. Sarita, Neeraj and Lovlina were very good."

Also present were teams from Korea, France, Finland, Greece and Switzerland. But all eyes were on the Chinese boxers, who rule women's boxing. China is the second-most successful nation at World Championships behind Russia, with 46 medals, including 17 gold. In Delhi last year, Chinese boxers made five out of the ten finals, winning gold in four categories. The performance was predictably stronger at the Asian Championships in April, where the nation medalled in each category; winning six gold, one silver and three bronze.

"China was the only reason we went to Italy," says chief coach Mohammed Ali Qamar. "They didn't just bring the full team,



but they also brought second-stringers there for practice. China dominates women's boxing. Sparring with these talented boxers motivated our girls. Sparring and the bouts are totally different, but you can take pointers from these sessions and use it to make the life tough for your opponents when it counts."

While they started slow, with one gold at

"There were no plans for us to go to Italy. But we only went because an Italian coach who is a friend informed me that the Chinese boxers will be coming in... We have videos from all the sessions, a lot of data which should help us prepare plan and adapt to the way the Chinese box."

RAFFAELE BERGAMASCO  
HIGH PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR

the inaugural 2001 Championships in Scranton, USA, the Chinese women improved dramatically, acquiring 2 silver and 3 bronze in the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games. For the upcoming World Championships in Ulan-Ude, Russia beginning on 3rd October, they possess a strong contender in each category, including Chang Yuan who was singled out by Mary Kom as a possible rival for the 51kg category.

Like the recently-concluded men's event, the women's world championships also won't offer an Olympic berth, with qualifiers for Tokyo to be held next year.

"There are two points to it. Of course we are disappointed because one would want to book an Olympic berth quickly and train," said Bergamasco. "Since this is no qualifier, a boxer can go in and just study the other opponents and get used to them for the events next year. And the biggest point is, if you are a World Championship or any other big event medallist, then the judges look at your name and look at you differently."

Mary Kom (51kg), Neeraj (57kg), Sarita Devi (60kg), Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) and Saweety Boora (75kg) will represent India in the five Olympic weights, while Manju Rani (48kg), Jamuna Boro (54kg), Manju Bomboriya (64kg), Nandini (81kg) and Kavita Chahal (+81kg) will compete in the non-Olympic categories.

do sparring like that, it helps a boxer. Inn log ko aaram se maar sakte hain, itna sochne ka koi zarurat nahi hai (We can beat these boxers easily, there's no need to overthink.)"

## Wary of surprises

Bergamasco adds that while the acquired data and analysis will be helpful, the Indians should be prepared for any possible surprises. "We have videos from all the sessions, a lot of data which should help us prepare plan and adapt to the way the Chinese box," says Bergamasco. "But you can only get some information from these things. And the Chinese are good at changing their game. Also, we should remember that they were also preparing for the Indians, and eventually who comes out on top depends on the boxers in the ring."

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## Kashyap seals Korea Open semi-finals spot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
INCHEON, SEPTEMBER 27

INDIAN SHUTTLER Parupalli Kashyap progressed to the men's singles semi-finals of the Korea Open World Tour Super 500 with a straight-game win over former world no 2 Denmark's Jan O Jorgensen here on Friday. In a clinical display, the 33-year-old from Hyderabad, who is the lone Indian left in fray, outsmarted Jorgensen 24-22 21-8 in 37 minutes to make it to his second semifinal of the season. He had reached the last four at the India Open Super 500 tournament.

The 2014 Commonwealth Games gold-medallist will now face world no 1 and two-time world champion Kento Momota of Japan on Saturday. A former World No 6, Kashyap, who was promoted from the qualifying round, had last played Jorgensen five years ago at the Denmark Open. The Indian entered the match with a 2-4 record against Jorgensen, a 2015 World Championship bronze medallist.

In the first game, the duo engaged in short rallies initially and split the first 8 points. A couple of backhand errors and Kashyap was lagging 5-8. Another miscued shot at the net and a wide smash gave Jorgensen an 11-8 advantage at the break.

After the interval, Kashyap garnered a few quick points to turn the tables on his rival, reaching 14-12. The Dane hit the net thrice and also went long, while Kashyap unleashed two powerful cross court smashes. A precise slice helped Jorgensen break the run of points and then level par when Kashyap committed an error.

The duo fought hard, moving from 14-14 to 18-18. A timely video referral gave Kashyap another point but he sent one to the net as it was 19-19. Jorgensen then held the game point opportunity after a precise smash at the baseline.

However, a jump smash from the Indian made it 20-20. Kashyap then earned a game point only to give it away. However, the Indian grabbed a second game point opportunity and converted it when his opponent hit the net. He thus sealed the first game which lasted 22 minutes.

The second game started on a similar note with the duo tied 3-3 initially. Kashyap then took control of the net and curbed his errors to reel off five straight points. Jorgensen tried to up the pace but unforced errors pegged him back as Kashyap held a 11-7 lead at the breather.

It was mostly one way traffic after the break as Kashyap found the gaps easily even as his rival got buried in a heap of unforced errors. Kashyap grabbed the next nine of the 10 points to move to the match point and then sealed it with a smash.

## High Performance Centre

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha government on Friday approved the setting up of a Badminton High Performance Centre here, to be built at an cost of Rs 30 crore.

"I am sure the High Performance Centre will be one of the top international standard training centres of our country. The state government has provided three acres of land for the centre," Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said.

With support from Dalmia Bharat Group, the state government is constructing a multi-purpose indoor hall inside the Kalinga Stadium campus, which will be ready by February 2020. "Promotion of sports by industrial houses is a winning combination. My government will always encourage such initiatives for the cause of sports in Odisha," the chief minister said.

## ACTION ON DAY 2

6:45pm	M	Discus throw Qualifying (Group A)
8:15pm	M	Discus throw Qualifying (Group B)
7:45pm	M	800m (heats)
8:00pm	M	Pole vault (Qualification)
8:35pm	M	400m (semis)
9:15pm	M	100m (semis)
9:45pm	W	800m (semis)
9:55pm	W	hammer throw (Final)

## INDIA WATCH



Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, a multiple Olympic and World Championship medallist, will be running in the women's 100 metres heats on Saturday. File

# Fraser-Pryce's journey: From a violent ghetto to scorching the track

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
DOHA, SEPTEMBER 27

JAMAICAN SPRINT legend Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce has already battled her way from abject poverty to a level of relative riches that will allow her to give her son Zyon a more comfortable upbringing than she experienced. Yet the engaging 1.52 metres (5 foot) 32-year-old 'pocket rocket' is not done yet.

The enduring Fraser-Pryce won the first of her two Olympic 100 metre titles in 2008. She has four individual World Athletics Championships golds. In 2013, in Moscow, she became only the third woman to achieve a sprint double and could repeat the historic feat in Doha. Her main rivals for the 100m, which gets underway on Saturday, are likely to be compatriot Elaine Thompson and Briton Dina Asher-Smith. Yet Fraser-Pryce is fortunate even to be running after missing the 2017 season with a difficult pregnancy.

"Honestly, I think my son kind of put things in perspective, where I can say, 'I'm OK, I have my son, now I've achieved so much, but I still want more,'" she told sports and pop culture website *The Undefeated* last year.

Fraser-Pryce may want more from the track but she has plenty going on off it. She owns a hair salon — not a great surprise given her penchant for dyeing her hair exotic colours. She also spends a lot of time talking to youngsters in her community about improving their lives. "If you understand Shelly, she's a behind-the-scenes person," her local priest, Winston Jackson, told Jamaican newspaper *The Gleaner* in 2012. "If she's going to help somebody, she will do it in private. She doesn't like all the excitement."

Her work with children has a personal side after a childhood in a violent ghetto in Kingston — a cousin was shot dead close to the family home — but where she refused to

accept her lot was to just survive.

Much of this steeliness was infused into her psyche by her mother, Maxine who brought up Shelly-Ann her two brothers up on her own in the Waterhouse neighbourhood, telling her daughter: 'you have a tallent go and use it.'

"I love my community and I love the fact that this is where I'm from and even though sometimes it's challenging to see some of the young people that I grew up with not making it — not doing better for themselves — I want [them] to understand that I embody everything that we are," Fraser-Pryce told *The Undefeated*. "For me, being a part of the community still, knowing that I am who I am now, I think it gives them hope and I want to always have the young people in my community be-

lieve that anything is possible." Fraser-Pryce was at least able to repay part of what she owed her mother with the money that track success brought. In the Fraser household because there was often no money, even for food, if Maxine didn't have a successful day.

"She was strict with us and worked hard as a street vendor to make sure we went to a good school," Fraser-Pryce told the *Daily Telegraph* in 2009.

"It was hard for her. Sometimes, we didn't have enough to eat. I'd go to school with no lunch money and my school would have to provide it. My mom wouldn't let me go outside. Coming back from school, the gang men sometimes would say things but I would walk by, never answer and my mom would go tell them leave me alone."

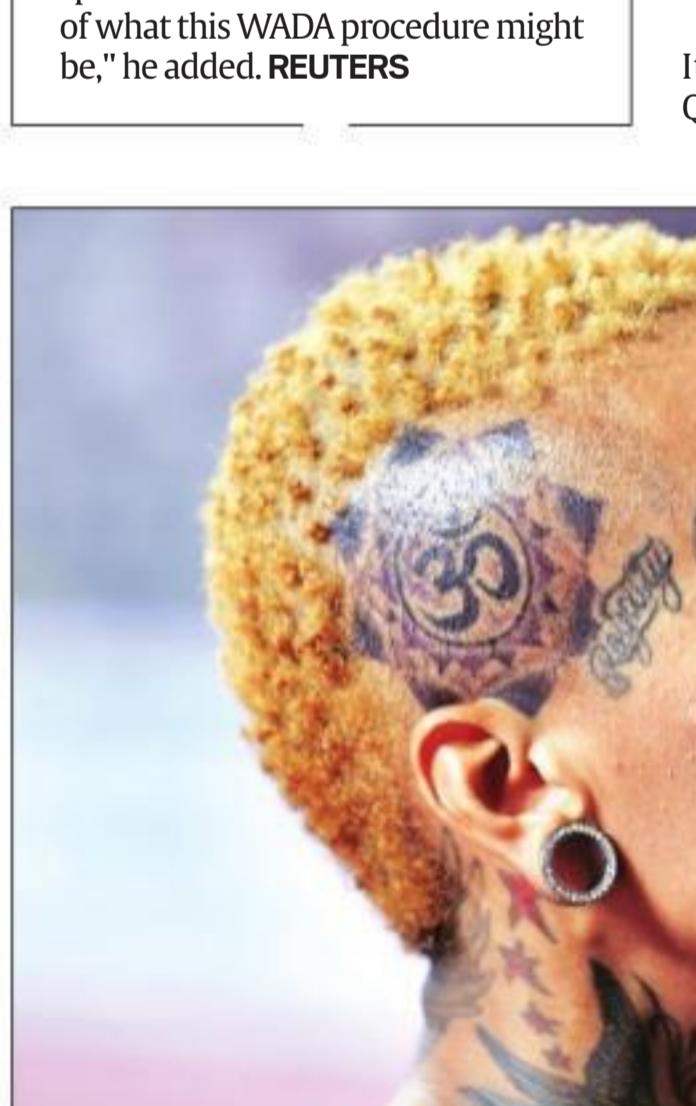
Dutee Chand, the world university champion, didn't meet qualifying standards but was extended an invitation by the IAAF.

7:00 pm 100 metres (heats)

**DUTEE CHAND**

8:00 pm 4x400m mixed relay (heats)

**INDIAN TEAM**



## GOOD HEADSPACE

High jumper Inika McPherson of the United States during a training session at the IAAF World Championships in Doha. Reuters

## Sreeshankar finishes 22nd, Jabir advances

Doha: India began its World Athletics Championships campaign on a disappointing note with long jumper M Sreeshankar failing to reach the final after finishing 22nd in the qualification round with a below par effort here on Friday. The 20-year-old Sreeshankar could only produce a best jump of 7.62m from his three attempts in the qualification B. His effort was well below his season's best of 8.00m, which he had produced only last month in Patiala.

MP Jabir gave Indian fans a reason to cheer as he advanced to the semifinals of the men's 400 metre hurdles with a time of 49.62 seconds. He finished third in his heat which was won by 2017 World



# On recovery phase, Real face Atletico

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

MADRID, SEPTEMBER 27

REAL MADRID and Atletico Madrid have each averted a mini-crisis already this season and one of the rewards for the winner of the derby on Saturday would be to stall their rival's recovery. In a press conference last week, Zinedine Zidane was asked six questions about his future as coach of Real Madrid, one of them whether he was irritated by Jose Mourinho's very public hankering for the job.

"I know how it works," Zidane said. "It's not about whether it bothers me or doesn't bother me. If you lose, things have to change."

A few hours later, Atletico were held to a 0-0 draw at home to Celta Vigo, a blunt display that raised familiar concerns about the threat of their attack and made it two draws and a defeat in a week.

"Atleti fans are demanding so I am not surprised by the criticism at all," said Diego Simeone. "Coaches are always to blame when you lose."

Yet at the Wanda Metropolitano this weekend, it will be La Liga's first against third, even if the ascendancy of Madrid's two premier clubs perhaps says as much about the chaos of the opening few weeks in Spain as it does about the strength of their revivals.

"The satisfaction is tremendous," said Zidane. "We have been questioned a lot." The team has responded," said Sergio Ramos. It began on the back of losing 3-0 to Paris Saint-Germain too in the Champions League and, even further back, a turbulent summer that saw Zidane frustrated by key targets, like Paul Pogba, missed and wanted departures, like Gareth Bale, failing to materialise.

Many though questioned his relationship with the club's president Florentino Perez and in that context off the pitch, there was a readiness for disappointment on it.

When results dipped and performances failed to improve, the sense was it had been coming. Beating Sevilla and then promoted Osasuna on Wednesday has turned the tide, not least because there was a resilience and purpose so previously lacking.



Real's Eden Hazard is eager to play against Atletico striker Diego Costa. AP

In each game, Madrid managed not to concede a single shot on target. "What has changed is that we believe in what we do," Zidane said.

"Now we are at our beginning."

Atletico is an opportunity to maintain momentum and it might be that a draw, at this early stage in the season, is acceptable to both, particularly ahead of the second round of Champions League group games next week.

Certainly, Atleti needed their win away at Mallorca on Wednesday, even if Alvaro Morata's mindless sending off, eight minutes after coming on as a substitute, means the Spaniard will be suspended for the derby this weekend. Morata's absence makes it all the more likely Diego Costa will keep his place up front alongside Joao Felix, particularly after it was their goals that sealed the Mallorca win.

Simeone said Atletico had been working individually to solve Costa's drought, which had seen him go without a goal since March. "Strikers live off goals," said Simeone.

"His goal is good for him and good for the team." After starting the season with three consecutive victories, Atletico were being circled as genuine contenders for the title but defeat to Real Sociedad and the stalemate against Celta had tempered expectations.

One win has restored belief but this game will be taken as an early litmus test for the threat that these teams pose.

# How red is Code Red in rugby?

A contact sport where rough challenges seem like a norm, a send off is rather rare. But there are persistent calls to get stricter on cynical tackles

IF SOMEONE walked into a heaving stadium hosting a rugby World Cup match and watched the game for the first time, they would keep glancing at the referee's pocket more than once expecting a red card to be pulled out oftener. The sport prepares its players for the crunchiest of tackles and plenty of seemingly rough challenges are legitimate. However increasingly there are persistent calls to get stricter on the dangerous plays that a rugger might cynically launch on an opponent.

## First Red

The US-England match saw the issuing of the Rugby World Cup's first red card when American flanker John Quill's shoulder charged an oncoming Owen Farrell on his face and side of the head in the 70th minute as England beat USA 45-7 at Kobe. It is interesting to note that referee Nic Berry, who had his playing career ended by concussion problems, sent the flanker off after consultation with the TV Match Official and gave the decisive card.

## What sizzled at Kobe

England were leading 38-0 when Mark Wilson dropped the ball from the kick-off, and the USA threatened for the first time in the game which they eventually lost by 7 try margin. England then grabbed the ball. Farrell fumbled, but finally had the sweaty soaked slippery ball in hand, hit his stride straightening up and was clobbered by John Quill. It was perhaps America's frustration at all their efforts coming to nought and how their forward line was crumbling like a leftover cookie by England monstrosity in every scrum and rolling maul or how they had been denied just moments before Quill caused harm. But the cynical takedown left Farrell with a bloodied nose, Quill with a red card and both teams getting into a melee turning into a brawl.

## Red to be read as

The violation merited a red card and a mid-range six-game entry point for the ban, reduced to three matches due to Quill's good



John Quill of the U.S. is shown a red card by referee Nic Berry – the first of this Rugby World Cup. Reuters

## WHAT THEY SAID

**It's a disgrace, it's cheap. That's not even a tackle, it's a cheap shot.**

**UGO MONYE, COMMENTATOR AND FORMER ENGLAND PLAYER.**

**Two games with 10 points – no major injuries. Owen just has half his nose missing. Apart from that pretty good. I think he is missing half his nose so I'm sure it's out there and I just hope it doesn't end up on the BBQ tonight.**

**EDDIE JONES, ENGLAND COACH**

character and conduct at the hearing. Quill will thus miss the USA's three other Pool C games against France, Argentina and Tonga. Farrell was not seriously injured by Quill's challenge and played on after the incident.

## If proof was still needed

Rugby wrestles with the idea of greater

caution in high tackles resisted by those who stupidly laugh it's going soft. Beyond the guffawing bravado, is the reality of concussions and head injuries.

"This tournament is unlikely to throw up a more graphic justification for rugby's policy shift against 'tackles' above the shoulder, when contact with the head is made, and/or the arms are not used on the ball carrier. In one disgraceful blow, the defensiveness of diehards who think rugby is going soft was exposed as disregard for the victims," NZHerald said.

## The head-splitting debate

It has been a Rugby World Cup 2019 of debate around seemingly lenient initial punishments for a number of high tackle incidents, according to *The Independent*. "Indeed, Quill's tackle was not the only such moment of the England-USA clash, with England centre Piers Francis cited for his tackle of Will Hooley inside of 15 second. Francis will appear before a judicial committee at some point in the next few days, and given he also made contact with the head of the player, a mid-range entry point seems likely. Francis would therefore also appear to be in line for a three-game ban. Rey Lee-Loo of Samoa and Reece Hodge of Australia received identical bans earlier in the tournament. Also banned for three games today was Samoan hooker Motu Matu'u. Matu'u and team mate Lee-Loo were cited after receiving yellow cards against Russia, with the citing panel deeming the offences to be worthy of a red card," *Independent* noted.

## History of Reds

Quill's was the 18th red card in history, with a total of 17 red cards issued during Cups since the first in 1987. The 2003 event saw zero reds. Six flankers have been guilty and nine countries have seen at least one of their players dismissed, with Tonga and Canada both having lost three members of their team. Two team captains have been dismissed by the referee.

There has only been 1 red card to date for 2 yellow card offenses. Welsh lock Huw Richards punched New Zealand lock Gary Whetton, Australian flanker David Codey twice trampled on a Welsh player in a ruck, two locks, Argentine Pedro Sporleder and Samoan Matt Keenan fought and both were packed off in 1991. SA and Canada brawled in 1995 losing 4 to reds. Tongan flanker Feleti Mahoni was caught stamping on the head of Frenchman Philippe Benetton during a ruck, Fijian Marika Vunibaka scored a try and later head-butted a Canadian, Ngatu Taufou'ou ran ten metres to punch England flanker Richard Hill and on the same day Brendan Venter was sent off for stamping on Uruguayan Martin Panizza.

Wales captain Sam Warburton was sent off in the semi-final against France because he did not safely return a player to the floor after a tackle. The decision was controversial with several commentators believing that it should only be a yellow card because Warburton did not drive the player into the ground. However, the red card was upheld.

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## TORQUE'S

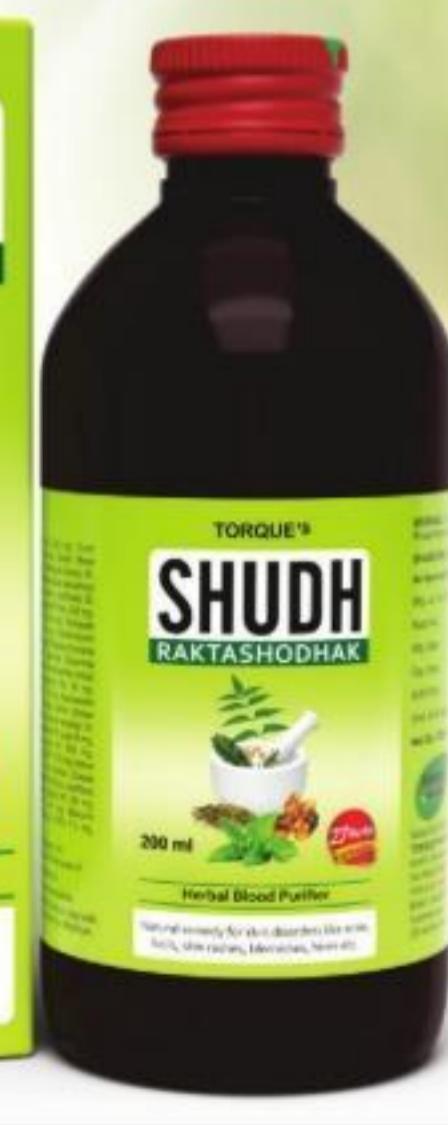
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